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BIRTHS.

On the 6th February, 1899, at "Burnbrae," the wife of ROUNSEVILLE WILDMAN, M.A., United States Consul General, of a daughter.

On the 7th February, at Shataeen (Canton), the wife of F. X. M. P. TAVARES, of a son.

DEATHS.

At Tientsin, on Wednesday, 25th January, 1899, WILLIAM HAWKES, Gymnastic Instructor, Imperial Arsenal, aged 27 years.

At Tientsin, on Wednesday, 25th January, 1899, THERESA, the wife of J. J. HATCHEL, aged 32 years.

On the 8th February, at Hongkong, Mr. C. F. GROSSMANN, aged 58 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 6th January arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Cornmandel*, on the 4th February (29 days); the American mail of the 7th January arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 5th February (29 days); and the German mail of the 9th January arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Sachsen*, on the 9th February (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The following appointment has been made at the Admiralty:—Captain F. Powell to be Commodore, 2nd class, at Hongkong, to date Jan. 5.

Work is now actively proceeding at Hongkong for the construction at that port of a strongly fortified naval station. With the construction of the railway it is believed that Hongkong will also become the chief commercial port of Tonkin.

According to a telegram received by the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* the German Emperor has wired to his brother Prince Henry of Prussia, ordering him, pending the settlement of the recent dispute between France and Siam, not to proceed to Bangkok.

At a meeting of the subscribers to the Victoria Nursing Institute, Shanghai, it was resolved to authorise the committee to accept contributions from donors of all nationalities instead of, as was originally intended, confining it entirely to Britishers. The proposed Institute is the memorial decided upon to commemorate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

From a Tonkin contemporary we learn that from the 1st March next the organisation of the French fleet in these waters is to undergo an alteration. The present Naval Division of the Far East is to be called the Naval Division of the Far East and of the Western Pacific, and its sphere will comprise, besides the China and Japan Seas, the Philippine Archipelago, the Sunda Islands, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, New Caledonia, and the New Hebrides. The Naval Division of the Pacific Ocean is at the same time to become the Division of the Eastern Pacific, the western limit of its sphere being the eastern limit of that of the Naval Division of the Far East and Western Pacific.

The *Bangkok Times* of the 23rd January says:—Dr. Morrison, the *Times* correspondent at Peking, arrived in Bangkok by the steamer *Chowfa* this afternoon. The Doctor will be here for about five days and will return to Peking. Afterwards he contemplates a journey up the West River in China. Dr. Morrison last visited Bangkok just over two years ago on his return from his plucky journey to Yunnan city, which occupied him some eleven months, and proved about the most difficult piece of travelling he ever accomplished. Since then Dr. Morrison has added greatly to his reputation as a brilliant journalist, and the Peking correspondent of the *Times* has come to be regarded as one of the Powers in the Far East.

The writer of "Notes on Local Topics" in the *Shanghai Mercury* says:—I am very glad to see that the General himself intends to come up from Hongkong to inspect the S. V. C. this year. We have been very lucky in having a succession of very pleasant-spoken and doubtless able men ever since professional inspections were inaugurated. But there are some old members of the Corps who remember the visit of Major-General Cameron.—Sergeant-Major-General Cameron, as they sometimes called him in Hongkong. He was as bluff as old Blucher himself might have been, and took little heed whose corns he trampled on in his eagerness to follow up a fault. There are several interesting stories extant amongst the rank and file of the rough-and-ready old soldier.

We learn from the *Japan Gazette* that No. 1 Dock of the Yokohama Dock Co., Limited, has been practically completed, and when the coffer dam has been removed will be ready for use. It measures in length 483 feet 7 inches on the blocks; 550 feet 6 inches from outside the entrance to the head; 530 feet from outside the caisson to the head; the entrance is 93 ft. 6 in. wide at the top and 70 feet 5 inches at the bottom; in depth it is 36 feet 4 inches inside and 34 feet on the sill; at springs there is a depth of 28 feet 10 inches on the blocks, at ordinary springs of a foot less and at low water of springs of 2 feet 3 inches; the blocks are 3 feet 3 inches apart and 3 feet 11 inches in height and the slope of the bottom is .06 inch per foot. The time required to pump out this dock is five hours.

From Yokohama papers we learn that Mr. Kiel, whose death by suicide on the 31st January was reported by telegram, was in the bar of the German Club at nine o'clock that morning, apparently in his usual health and spirits, and an hour later he was found near one of the sawpits of the Phoenix Saw Mills, breathing, but in an insensible condition, having shot himself in the mouth with a revolver. He had during the past two months been afflicted with nervous prostration, which was said to have driven him to the use of anaesthetics. Beyond his disordered nervous condition there appears to have been no motive whatever for self-destruction.

A Peking dispatch states that H.E. Li Hung-chang who has recently been busily occupied in determining and preparing for the conservation of the Yellow River works in Shantung province, has been lately ordered by Imperial edict of the Empress Dowager to return post haste to Peking and was expected to reach the capital on the 1st February. It is stated that this has been due to the uncertainty of Foreign and Palace politics at present, and the Empress Dowager appears to wish to have her old adviser by her side when occasion arises. The post vacated by H.E. Li will probably be given to H.E. Hsu Ching-yi, Ex-Governor of Kwangtung, who was formerly Director-General of the Yellow River, and is supposed to know something of river conservance.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* says:—A merchant has told us that French goods, of French origin, but not arriving directly from France, pay duty as foreign goods. Our countryman lately received via Hongkong a consignment of goods made in France and shipped from France, but instead of sending them directly to Haiphong the shipper took advantage of a foreign vessel leaving at once for Hongkong. The goods were, moreover, forwarded on to Haiphong by a French steamer. The duty imposed was that imposed on foreign goods. Would it not be possible to modify this too rigorous tariff? Let the French mercantile marine be protected by all means—we would be the first to ask it—but does it not seem rather severe to subject goods really and truly French to the same duty as foreign goods simply because these French goods have, for one cause or another, been shipped by a foreign steamer?

Among the coloured gentlemen who were sent to Manila as soldiers was one who unfortunately broke his leg and lost an eye on the voyage during bad weather. He obtained his discharge and started a restaurant at Cavite, and hobbled about on crutches. One day lately, while talking to an American civilian who is now in Shanghai, he saw two gentlemen and enquired who they were. Said the civilian "One is Admiral Dewey and the other the Captain of the dockyard." "Just the man I want to see" said the ducky and hobbling along almost at a run he accosted one of the gentlemen with "Is you Admiral Dewey?" He wasn't; it was the other, so the coloured man addressed the right person, who shook hands with him, and enquired how he was getting on. Ducky was so affected that he sang out "Admiral Dewey, if ever you run for President, never mind what ticket you run on, you will always have one vote and that is mine, Bill Smith of Texas." The Admiral smiled and the interview terminated.—*Union*.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CHINA.

(Daily Press, 6th February).

Those of our readers who read the speech of Lord CHARLES BERESFORD delivered at the farewell dinner given to him in Shanghai will no doubt remember that he made reference to the American Association of China, and representatives of that organisation were also present on that occasion. This was the first public appearance of the American Association and we do not think it could possibly have enjoyed a more earnest or a more practical introduction to the foreign community in China. The new association was the outcome of a distinct and very often felt need, and we are pleased to learn that its birth was due to the good work performed by that excellent organisation that watches over British interests—the China Association. Our American cousins are distinctly practical and they intend their new society to do real practical work that will not only benefit their commercial enterprise but American interests in general. The number of American residents in North China has within the last two years increased largely; new and responsible business firms have been started, representatives of home houses have arrived, and American vested interests have thus rendered an Association of this description imperative. In addition the Philippines have come under American influence and American merchants in those islands will be invited to join the new Association. The American Association of China has already in its initial action justified its existence, which is an earnest of the things it intends to do, for it has unanimously offered to Lord CHARLES BERESFORD its emphatic support of the maintenance of the policy of the "open door" in opposition to any foreign power seeking exclusive commercial privileges. The objects of the Association as stated in Article II of its Constitution are—

(1)—To foster and safeguard the trade and commercial interests of the citizens and the United States and others associated therewith in the Empires of China, Japan, and Korea and in the Philippine Islands and elsewhere in Asia or Oceania.

(2)—To secure the advantages of sustained watchfulness and readiness for action which will accrue from united and permanent organisation in all matters relating to Asiatic trade or legislation or treaties affecting the same.

(3)—To provide for convenient ascertainment and distribution of information affecting the interests of its members, and.

(4)—Generally to promote a beneficial acquaintance and association of those having interests and pursuits in common connected to such trade or commerce.

It is not intended to confine the membership to Shanghai alone but to include Korea, the Outports, and, as we have already mentioned, the Philippines also. No doubt many of the Americans in Hongkong will also hasten to join it and otherwise lend it support. It is important to note that in addition to questions affecting trade the Association can employ its energy and resources in other equally responsible functions. When the riots took place in Szechuen and the massacre of missionaries at Foochow the American citizens in China were considerably handicapped because they had no organisation to appeal to. "There was no difficulty," said a recent speaker at one of the meetings of the Association "in getting the money for telegrams, but there was nobody to whom they could appeal in whom was based anything like authority." The new society will in the event of any future trouble fulfil that need.

The strong universality of objection which prevails among foreign residents in China in conjunction with the British against the French demands at Shanghai is shown in

the following telegrams, so far as the Americans are concerned:—

"Shanghai, January 5th, 1899.

CONGRÈS, Peking:—

French Settlement extension on exclusive lines reported imminent, Americans here again vigorously protest.

(Signed) HASKELL,
Chairman, American Association,
of China."

"Shanghai, January 5th, 1899.

PRESIDENT, Washington:—

Americans Shanghai strongly protest against extension French Settlement with exclusive jurisdiction; reported imminent.

(Signed) HASKELL,
Chairman."

In a letter to the American Asiatic Association at New York from the Chairman of the American Association at Shanghai the goodwill and sympathy with Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's mission is strikingly manifested and the whole of the letter itself is worthy of publication, though it might be suggested that the Association should give the question of reforming the Chinese Government priority, over the mere preservation of the country's territorial integrity:—

Shanghai, China, 7th January, 1899.

EVERETT FRIZZAR ESQ.,

President of the American

Asiatic Association,

65, Wall Street, New York.

SIR,—It is with much gratification that the American Association of China learns that the Right Honourable Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, C.B., who is credited by the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Great Britain, and has spent some months in China in the interest of British trade and commerce, is about to pass through the United States on his homeward journey. Lord Beresford has had exceptional opportunities for a careful study of present political and commercial conditions in this country, and we feel that the results of his investigations cannot but be of especial value to American merchants and other having interests in China. We trust, therefore, that he may have the opportunity, as he has expressed his willingness to do so, to present his views before your own Association or the larger body of merchants comprising the New York Chamber of Commerce. His public address in China show that he has a strong grasp of the situation here and inasmuch as we believe American and British interests in China to be practically identical, we feel assured that his suggestions as to the best steps to be taken on behalf of the one would be best also for the other. The point known as that of the "open door," which is but another name for that guaranteed by the "favourable nation" clause in the existing treaties with China, is without question a policy which preserves the rights of all and does justice to all. The rights thus guaranteed are jeopardized by the recent aggressive action in the North of China in the name of certain European powers, looking at the acquisition of territorial and exclusive privileges. The preservation of the territorial integrity of the Empire of China is essential to the conservation of our commercial and other interests, and we feel satisfied that this can best be secured by the active co-operation of Great Britain and the United States and possibly other powers for this purpose. Such a combination, too, would be in the interests of China herself, and appears to be the only course that can give promise of securing the peaceful development of her vast resources as well as her political and social regeneration.

We bespeak for Lord Beresford an attentive hearing upon these questions and beg to suggest to your Association the propriety of further representations to our Government of the pressing need of immediate action with reference to the matters herein-discussed.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. S. HASKELL,

President,

American Association of China.

In conclusion we wish the American Association of China much prosperity in the useful career which we can see before it and we feel sure all British merchants in China and Hongkong will re-echo that wish.

THE COLLISION BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND PHILIPPINE FORCES.

(Daily Press, 8th February.)

The news of the collision between the Philippine and United States Forces at Manila must have been received with extreme regret by all parties. The situation has for a long time past been strained, but there seemed some ground for hoping that moderate councils might prevail on both sides and

that a peaceful solution of the questions at issue might be arrived at. Instructions had been sent to General Oris to avoid a collision if possible, and AGUINALDO on his side was understood to be holding in his followers, but apparently their impatience has got beyond control, and a general attack was made on the American position on Sunday. The result of such an attack was a foregone conclusion. Reuter informs us that after fourteen hours' severe fighting the United States troops carried two of the Filipino positions and advanced their lines. The American loss was twenty killed and a hundred and twenty-five wounded; the Filipino loss is placed by a private telegram at 1,900. AGUINALDO, though occupying the supreme position of President of the Philippine Republic, does not now exercise the powers of a dictator, but is more or less in the hands of his Council of Government, and the operation which has ended so disastrously for the natives may possibly have been undertaken without the formality of obtaining his consent. This is mere surmise, and it may turn out that AGUINALDO himself directed and led the attack, but we are inclined to think that if he had any part in it it was only after the conflict had been precipitated and when he could no longer by anything short of abdication of his office resist the pressure to which he was subjected. The Philippine Government has been but a few months in existence and already there have been several Cabinet crises and reconstructions, the personal influence of the President being apparently less potent than it was originally. After the severe lesson of Sunday it is possible the Filipinos may be more ready to listen to reason and to leave the negotiations with America once more entirely in AGUINALDO's hands, or at all events that the more extreme party will moderate their agitation. Those of the natives who are not intimated with their new and as yet insubstantial political enfranchisement must recognise the utter hopelessness of any attempt to drive the Americans out of Manila. On the other hand, if the Americans enter on the task of completely subjugating the country they will have a war on their hands which will prove more difficult and involve a much larger sacrifice of life than the struggle the Dutch have so long waged in Aceh. The case is one for compromise. The natives would be wise to accept autonomy under an effective American protectorate, and this we think, is as much as the Americans should try to enforce.

THE REBELLIONS IN CENTRAL CHINA.

(Daily Press, 4th February.)

The rebellions in Central China are still giving serious trouble to the Authorities, and that in the province of Anhui appears to be gathering force rather than showing signs of discomfiture. The cities of Kuyang and Mengcheng, after standing a siege by the rebels, have at length fallen into their hands. The former city was carried by assault on the 21st ultimo, and the gates of Mengcheng were opened to the foe on the 22nd by sympathisers in the city. It is stated that the rebel force is now en route for Shachou and Kauchou, which cities they have also resolved to capture. The rebel leader Niu is reported to be a savage chieftain, and it is said that he butchered the commandant of the garrison at Kuyang. It is also said that some two thousand men, women, and children fell in the struggle attending the capture of the city. The rebels

of Anhui have been joined by a band of disaffected men from the adjoining province of Honan, and the latter are credited with a prowess that has created a great impression in Anhui and served to discomfit the troops sent against the rebel army.

In Szechuen, on the other hand, the rebels appear, according to official accounts—which cannot, however, be greatly trusted—to have met with signal reverses. Not only were the rebels routed most signally on the 17th and 18th ult. but their notorious leader YU MAN-ZE is reported to have been captured, the Rev. Father FLEURY has been set at liberty, and Yü's stronghold, Lung Shiu-chen, is now in the possession of His Excellency WANG CHIK-CHUAN, the Provincial Treasurer, who intends to await instructions there from Peking with regard to the disposal of the rebels who have fallen into his hands. WANG is also said to have a force of troops under his command sufficient to enable him to disperse all the rebels and to restore order in the province. We trust this intelligence may prove to be well founded, but Chinese official telegrams are wont to record as facts what the authors of the messages hope will prove so ultimately. If the reports now received are, however, reliable, it will remove a source of uneasiness, for if these rebellions were to continue to spread they might compel foreign intervention for the purpose of restoring order. The rising, headed by YU MAN-ZE would long ago have been quelled had the Viceroy of Szechuen acted boldly and promptly at the outset instead of meekly trying to purchase the rebel's submission.

CHINESE "CAN DO."

(Daily Press, 8th February.)

The comparative untouchableness of the Chinese by lessons of experience has often been noted. *Experientia docet* is an axiom which as a race they have little faith in or care for. Rather than take a little trouble the ordinary Chinaman will, as frequently as not, take a frightful risk, and even when to his own knowledge a certain course or practice has previously evoked disaster he is not to be deterred from again taking what he calls the chance. At the recent public meeting held at the City Hall under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, Lord CHARLES BERESFORD in the course of his address told some racy anecdotes of Chinese indifference to perils and perseverance in provoking them rather than alter their methods. His Lordship mentioned three cases in which he had pointed out defects in the making of shell and powder, and how when he indicated to the Chinese authorities the consequences that were likely to ensue they replied, apparently delighted with his naivety, that the consequences had already happened, that they had already blown the chases off their guns, had blown the breeches out, and at Canton had had an explosion in a powder magazine. But the Chinese Authorities at Canton are unimpressed with danger and will not trouble to take necessary precautions. Nor are they in the least degree singular in this respect. Very lately there was a most disastrous explosion in a powder magazine at Hangchow with terrible results and the loss of life and property. The magazine was situated in the heart of the city, and any other people would not consider twice as dangerous a manufacture outside the walls, after the recent experience, but

the provincial authorities are undismayed and unmoved. According to the Hangchow correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary they have disregarded the wishes of the inhabitants of the locality and have calmly resolved to re-erect the magazine on the old site, the residents in the vicinity being informed that they must take their chances and be resigned to whatever Fate may have in store for them. Few of the Chinese are followers of the Prophet, but a vast number believe in *kismet*. This truly oriental apathy is a great barrier to any real and sweeping scheme of reform. Any progressive measures likely to be sanctioned will inevitably prove rare if not impossible of attainment. The spirit of progress or of reform does not exist in China except in very isolated cases, and it is to be feared the policy of "can do" will yet bring about the gradual decay and breaking up of the Celestial Empire. The existence of this Sick man of the Further East may be prolonged for some years by British and American assistance, but it cannot be averted unless the character of the Government undergoes a radical change.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On the 8th Feb. a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, Sir Henry BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE C.M.G. (Officer Commanding the Troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted as a correct record.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Head Master of Queen's College for the year 1898 and the report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol for the same year.

THE PROPOSED NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

The Hon. E. R. BELLIOS said—I have sent a copy of the following questions to the Clerk of Councils: (1) Will the Government state whether or not sites for the proposed new Law Courts and for the new Post Office have been selected? (2) Will the Government state whether the plans for the above-named buildings have been considered, and whether they are prepared to recommend such plans for adoption? (3) Will the Government state whether the Secretary of State for the Colonies has sanctioned any scheme for the erection of the new public offices above-named put before him by the Government?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the first question I have to state that the site selected for the new Law Courts is a site immediately north of the site of the City Hall on the Praya Reclamation Ground. With regard to the second question, the site at present selected for the new Post Office is the site now occupied by the Post Office and the Supreme Court or by a portion of those buildings, but an official decision has not been arrived at. No plans for the new Post Office have been considered. As to the third question, the Secretary of State has not sanctioned any scheme for the erection

of the new public offices referred to in the two previous answers.

The Hon. E. R. BELLIOS—I intend to ask a few questions at the next Council meeting, a copy of which I will hand to the Clerk of Councils for approval. They will refer to the plot of land now lying fallow and situated to the north of the gaol and the Magistracy.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have just been speaking to the Clerk on the matter, and I think all questions that are to be asked should appear in the orders of the day, and I suggest that this should be done in future.

A NEEDLESS WARNING.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to move the following resolution standing in my name:—"Whereas it has been usual to warn officers appointed to the service of this Colony since 1894, from a country possessing a gold standard of currency, that the exchange compensation allowance on half their salaries will be granted to them so long as it is granted to other members of the service, but that the continuance thereof is not guaranteed and is subject to the annual vote of the Council, and it is deemed that such warning is calculated to deter eligible persons from entering the public service, it is hereby resolved that it is expedient to discontinue such warning in future, and to regard the compensation as a permanent but not as a pensionable emolument." The terms of the resolution are so clear that I do not consider any further comment is necessary from me.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

THE LAWS RELATING TO MERCHANT SHIPPING, ETC.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—I rise to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Merchant Shipping, the duties of the Harbour Master, the control and management of the waters of the Colony, and the regulation of vessels navigating the same. At the next meeting of the Council in moving the second reading I propose to move that this Bill be referred to the Standing Law Committee for consideration.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—On former occasions when Bills have been introduced into this Council in connection with the merchant shipping it has been usual for the Government to forward copies for the consideration of the Chamber of Commerce, who have practical knowledge of the shipping, and their suggestions have been invited. Perhaps on this occasion the usual course might be followed?

HIS EXCELLENCY—I do not know what the custom has been. In fact I know nothing about this Bill. I have never seen it, but it seems to me as the first reading of a Bill is a purely *pro forma* matter, considerable time will elapse before the Bill will be read a second time. I think a copy of the Bill might be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, and no doubt the committee would be very glad to have their opinion on it. It would be very valuable. I quite agree with the honourable member on the advisability of it.

It was understood that a copy of the Bill should be forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce.

The Bill passed the first reading.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE IN THE SUPREME COURT.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—I rise to propose the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Criminal Procedure in the Supreme Court. At the next meeting after the Bill has been read a second time I propose to move that the Bill be referred to the Standing Law Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

THE LAW RELATING TO PRISONS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—I rise to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Prisons. As I indicated to honourable members of this Council when this Bill was last before the Council on the first reading, I shall have some amendments to move in committee. The first amendment which I shall have to move is in the last line of clause 4—to

substitute the word "this" for "the" before the word "ordinance." The next amendment which I propose to move in committee is to strike out the words "appointed thereto under the provisions of this ordinance" which occur at the end of clause 5. The next amendment which I shall have to move in committee will be in clause 13. Instead of "The regulations of a prison" I propose to substitute "prison rules or regulations," and at the beginning of line 4 of the same clause I propose to substitute for "regulations" the words "rules or regulations." Section 17 of the Bill seems to me to be quite unnecessary as I informed honourable members at the last meeting of the Council, and unless some honourable member can show good cause to the contrary I propose to move that clause 17 be left out of the Bill entirely. With regard to clause 18 I think the words "warder or other subordinate" in the first line should come out and also the words "warder or" in the third line. I think that these are all the amendments which I shall have to move to the Bill in committee. Honourable members will see that this is a consolidating Bill. It is founded in the main upon the present Prison Ordinance—Ordinance 18 of 1885—but there are, as honourable members will see from the "objects and reasons," certain amendments introduced. The first amendment is in section 8, which differs from section 7 of the Prisons Ordinance of 1885 in the omission of the word "warmed" which used to come between the word "lighted" and the word "ventilated." The reason for the omission of the "warmed" is that cells here are not as a matter of fact warmed at all. Section 9 of the present Ordinance differs from section 8 of the Prisons Ordinance of 1885 in the following main respects:—(i) By abolishing the rigid classification of hard labour into two classes which was laid down by the old Ordinance and which was found unworkable in practice and in leaving such classification to be prescribed by the Prison Rules and Regulations. (ii) The language of the old section as to the employment of prisoners outside of the walls has been modified in accordance with the recommendation of the Captain Superintendent of Police. (iii) Section 11 of the present Ordinance differs from section 10 of the Prisons Ordinance of 1885, in that the words "who escapes or attempts to escape from any prison or" are now added. The object of this amendment is to prevent difficulties from arising in the prosecution of prisoners who are caught while attempting to escape and who have not committed anything which could be described as a "breach" of prison. The fourth respect in which this Bill contains an amendment of the existing law is that section 12 of this Bill differs from section 11 of the old Ordinance in giving power to impose imprisonment either with or without hard labour, and in altering the penalty of £20 sterling into a penalty of \$200. There are also one or two slight verbal alterations introduced with which I do not need to trouble honourable members with any observations. The fifth amendment introduced by this Bill is that by section 13 the former penalty of £10 has been converted into \$100. The sixth amendment is that in adapting section 18 from the provisions of Ordinance 13 of 1889 as affected by section 2 of Ordinance 15 of 1896 it has been thought expedient to leave out the following words which were contained in Ordinance 13 of 1889, namely, "who is guilty of any neglect or violation of duty in his office, or of any disobedience to any rules made under the provisions of section 17 of Ordinance 18 of 1885." The reason for leaving out these words is that special provisions for dealing with the offences contained in the omitted words are contained in the new draft Prison Rules. The seventh amendment is that section 19 of the Bill consists of an adaptation of section 17 of the Prisons Ordinance of 1885 with certain additions which are intended to remove doubts as to whether the rules, which it is proposed to bring into force directly this Ordinance is passed, will be *ultra vires* or not. The second sentence of this section is new and is intended to confer full power upon the Governor-in-Council to impose by the rules any punishment which he may think fit for a breach of any of the rules. The eighth amendment introduced is that the provision contained in section 21 of

the Bill is new so far as this colony is concerned, but is adapted from the provisions of section 9 of a Statute which was passed in the last session of the Imperial Parliament (81 and 82 Vic. c. 41). The proviso, however, at the end of the section is original and does not correspond with anything contained in the home Act. Such a proviso, however, appears to be just, and its insertion was recommended by the Acting Police Magistrate. With these observations I beg to move the second reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Council then went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause. The amendments suggested by the Acting Attorney-General and mentioned above were adopted and also several others, including one to clause 12, which clause reads as follows:—Every person who, contrary to any prison rule or regulation, brings or attempts by any means whatever to introduce into any prison any spirituous or fermented liquor or tobacco or opium, and every officer of a prison who suffers any spirituous or fermented liquor or tobacco or opium to be sold or used therein, contrary to the prison regulations, shall be sentenced on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months with or without hard labour, or to a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars, or to both in the discretion of the Court, and any officer of a prison convicted under this section shall, in addition to any other punishment, forfeit his office and all arrears of salary due to him.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I have to move an amendment to the last line of clause 12. I do not know what the opinion of the Captain Superintendent of Police is on the subject, but it seems to me that the word "shall" towards the end is too compulsory. I do not know that it is intended, but the language is that such an offence should carry with it forfeiture of office and arrears of salary. Perhaps it would be preferable to use the word "may" instead of the word "shall."

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I should very much object to retaining a man who has been convicted in an office. I do not know about the arrears of salary.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—I agree with the Colonial Treasurer. In the rules at home certain offences entail not only forfeiture of office but forfeiture of arrears of salary.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Would it entail loss of arrears of salary if a man had been previously well conducted?

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—In the home Act I believe it would do so. This Bill is really copied almost verbatim from the home Act.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—The words "shall in the discretion of the Governor" might be inserted, and then it is made optional.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The word "shall" appears to me as far as carrying with it dismissal is concerned right enough, but in the other case it is rather strong.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—I see no objection to leaving the words "arrears of salary" out. It is not usual in other departments to forfeit arrears of salary when a man is dismissed, but I think dismissal ought to be compulsory.

HIS EXCELLENCY—There are two questions. One is, is it advisable to make it the law that when a man is convicted under this section he shall be deprived of his office? The other question is whether being so deprived of his office he shall not be paid the arrears of a salary due to him.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I think a man convicted should vacate his office, but that he should have the salary which he has earned.

HIS EXCELLENCY—It seems to me you should pay the salary up to the date of the dismissal.

On the motion of the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, seconded by the Hon. C. P. CHATER, the words "and all the arrears of salary due to him" were deleted.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the words "arrears of salary due to him" which occurred in clause 13 were also deleted.

The Bill passed through the committee stage.

THE LAW RELATING TO SOLICITORS OF THE SUPREME COURT.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Solicitors of the Supreme Court was passed.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—In moving that this Council go into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause—

The COLONIAL TREASURER—There is no immediate hurry, and I would suggest that the consideration in committee be postponed to the next meeting of the Council.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I do not know that there is any wish on the part of the Council to postpone it.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—This is a highly technical Bill, and it is for this sort of thing that the Law Committee was appointed.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—There is a point I should mention in connection with clause 21 of the Bill. Some honourable members suggested to me that clause 21 was not an advisable clause to leave in. Clause 21, as honourable members will see, is a special clause which is borrowed from a similar provision contained in the Straits Settlements Ordinances and in the Statutes of some of the Australian colonies. Clause 21 says:—"No person who shall have been admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Judicature in England or as an attorney or writer in one of the Courts at Dublin or Edinburgh shall be admitted to practise within the colony as a solicitor otherwise than as a clerk to a solicitor or firm of solicitors practising in the colony until he shall have actually resided in the colony for a period of six months next preceding such admission and unless he shall have previously given six months' notice in writing to the Registrar of the Court of his desire and intention to apply to be admitted; but any person who may have been admitted to practise as a solicitor within the colony as a clerk to another solicitor or firm of solicitors shall, after having so practised for a period of six months, be deemed to have been admitted to practise within the colony as a solicitor and shall be entitled to to practise upon his own account unless precluded from so doing by any lawful agreement or undertaking." Honourable members will see that according to this clause no solicitor coming into this colony could start on his own account until he had actually resided in the colony for six months and until he had given notice to the Registrar six months previously that he intended so to practice, unless he intended to come to the colony as a clerk to a firm of solicitors, in which case of course he would be bound down from practising on his own account for so many years on the termination of his engagement. This is rather an important clause in the Bill. Of course it would be considered by the Law Committee, of which I think three unofficial members of the Council are members. Of course I do not know whether the other unofficial members of the Council who are not members of the Law Committee would like to have this Bill discussed by the Law Committee alone, or whether they would wish to have it discussed in the whole Council clause by clause.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Anything referred to the Law Committee is reported upon by them, and the full Council has the opportunity of discussing that report. I think the suggestion of the Colonial Treasurer is one which deserves consideration. As he pointed out, this Bill is a very technical one. It is one which should be referred to the Law Committee, and if your Excellency has no objection I will now formally move that it be referred to the Law Committee.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD seconded, and the motion was carried.

NATURALIZATION.

The Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Mak Ngan Wan, alias Mak Chie Ki, alias Mak Sui Nin, alias Mak Yai Wa, alias Mak Sun was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

THE REGULATION OF VEHICLES.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER, the Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Regulation of Vehicles was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned until Monday next.

SUPREME COURT

6th February.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A SPECIAL JURY.

HOK V. BELILIOS.

The hearing of this case was resumed. Tsau Tsang, who carries on business in the name of A Hok, of 23, D'Aguilar Street, contractor, sought to recover from the Hon. E. R. Belilios the sum of \$11,200, being the balance money for work done and materials provided by the plaintiff on a building belonging to the defendant which is known as Beaconsfield, in the occupation of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire.

Mr. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant.

The following composed the special jury:—Messrs. R. Marten (foreman), H. M. Mehta, J. S. Van Buren, Walter Poate, W. R. Loxley, W. Hutton Potts, and C. A. Tomes.

Mr. Belilios, on his cross-examination being resumed by Mr. Pollock, said Mr. Chatham came specially to him at his office to speak to him about the repairs and alterations to Beaconsfield, but he did not remember whether he gave him an estimate of the cost or not. When Mr. Chatham told him he would not be bound by the way Mr. Danby proposed to carry out the work witness told him he could have carte blanche.

Mr. Danby, architect, gave evidence as to the difference in the cost of carrying out the repairs and alterations to Beaconsfield according to his plans and those of Mr. Chatham, showing in what particulars the cost of the latter exceeded the cost of the former.

What in your opinion has been the cause of the difference in your estimate of \$6,500 and the account sent in of \$17,200?—I can only sum it up by the word extravagance. Economy seems to have been an unknown quantity, seeing the premises were only let on a three years' lease and considering the nature and character of the buildings themselves.

In reply to Mr. Pollock, witness said that before the repairs and alterations were taken in hand the building was in a fair and substantial state of repair, except that it wanted lime-washing and painting. The so-called estimate of his was more than an estimate. Tenders were sent in for less than his estimate.

7th February.

Mr. Francis, in summing up for the defence, said this was a quarrel between three individuals—A Hok, Mr. Belilios, and the Government represented by the Public Works Department—but he asked the jury to bear in mind in considering this case that there were only two of these parties before the court and that the only questions they had to decide in that suit were the questions arising on the face of the pleadings between A Hok and Mr. Belilios. A Hok came there as a contractor and claimed for the balance of money due for work done on the house Beaconsfield, which was undoubtedly the property of Mr. Belilios. A Hok claimed \$11,200 as the balance due. They were not disputing for a moment that A Hok did work in the house to that extent and that there was a balance due to him, by somebody of \$11,200 and that there were other moneys due to other people not now before the Court in respect of work on the same house. They were not disputing that A Hok's work was thoroughly well done and that he was fully entitled to be paid his \$11,200. The question was, Who was liable to pay? A Hok had

chosen to take proceedings against Mr. Belilios and to insist upon it in that court that Mr. Belilios was the person who was liable and bound to pay him the balance undoubtedly now due, on the ground that though Mr. Belilios never instructed him in person or entered into a contract with him personally he authorised the Public Works Department to engage him in his name on his behalf to do the work for him. The answer of Mr. Belilios to that was that he never authorised the Public Works Department to employ A Hok in his name or on his behalf. Mr. Belilios never entered into such relationships with A Hok as would have enabled him to take proceedings against A Hok and sue him for damages if the work had not been properly done. The question was, to whom was A Hok responsible? Was he responsible to the Public Works Department for the way in which he did his work? If the material was bad or the work improperly done could Mr. Belilios sue or could the Public Works Department? Mr. Belilios's statement was that he did not constitute the Public Works Department his agents to enable them to make a contract between himself and A Hok. His statement was that he authorised the Public Works Department themselves to do the work, and that therefore there was no binding contract, no legal bond of connection, between A Hok and himself, and that was the main point for the jury to try and to determine. Having recapitulated the facts of the case, Mr. Francis contended that the nature of the authority given by Mr. Belilios to the Public Works Department was to execute repairs to the extent of \$2,000 and alterations—alterations which had been specifically pointed out—to the extent of \$4,000.

Mr. Pollock, on behalf of plaintiff, submitted that the jury should believe the account given by Mr. Chatham. They might think that in this matter Mr. Chatham had not acted so wisely as a man would have done had he foreseen that the difficulties which had occurred might have occurred. It was very easy to be wise after the event. He thought Mr. Chatham on the whole gave his evidence very fairly. There was no real ground for impugning his bona fides. Mr. Danby's evidence, on the other hand, and his general demeanour in the witness box—he did not wish to be unkind to Mr. Danby, but he thought it must have occurred to each one of the jury that Mr. Danby's air in the witness box was the air of a man who was briefed—distinctly briefed—on one side. In conclusion he submitted that the only just and fair verdict the jury could come to in this case was that there was a direct chain of agency between A Hok and Mr. Belilios, that the chain of agency had been established to their satisfaction, and that plaintiff, whatever rights Mr. Belilios might have against Mr. Chatham or against the Government, was entitled to recover from Mr. Belilios the whole of this amount which he claimed in this suit.

His Lordship summed up at some length, touching in the course of his remarks on the unbusiness-like manner in which certain parties in the case had acted.

His Lordship concluded at a quarter-past six, when the jury retired. They returned at 6:35 and gave their verdict, (four to three) as follows:—

Issue No. 5.—No as to (a). Yes as to (b).

Issue No. 8.—No.

Issue No. 9.—No on each head.

This being practically a verdict for the defendant, Mr. Francis asked that judgment be entered for defendant with costs.

Mr. Pollock asked that under the special circumstances of the case no costs be allowed. Judgment for defendant with costs.

The following are the issues mentioned above:—

5. (a) Did the defendant, either expressly or impliedly, authorize the Public Works Department to enter into any contract in his name or on his behalf with the plaintiff or with any other person to execute repairs and alterations to "Beaconsfield?" or

(b) Did the defendant only authorize the Public Works Department, by themselves, their servants or agents, to execute repairs and alterations to "Beaconsfield?"

8.—Was the said William Chatham the authorised agent of the defendant to issue certificates?

9.—Is the defendant estopped by his payment to the plaintiff of \$6,500 on a certificate issued by the said William Chatham from denying

(a.) That the plaintiff was employed in his name on his behalf.

(b.) That the said William Chatham was entitled to give certificates in favour of the plaintiff so as to bind the defendant, or

(c.) That the authority given to the Public Works Department was exceeded.

3rd February.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED BREACH OF COVENANT.

Cheung Yau Tau and Cheung Yau Leung and one Lam Shi (of 57, Wyndham Street), executors and executrix of the late Cheung Kai, sought to obtain an injunction to restrain Choi Chan, of 56, Praya Central, from committing a breach of a certain covenant with reference to certain buildings.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny, appeared for plaintiffs, and Mr. Slade, instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, for defendant.

Mr. Francis said plaintiffs and defendant were owners of two rows of houses extending from Queen's Road towards the Praya and which were back to back. Originally or some time ago there was something in the nature of a four-foot lane or opening or passage between the backs of these two rows of houses, and of that four-foot lane a very narrow strip next to plaintiffs' houses—about 20 inches in width at one end and 10 inches in width at the other—belonged to Cheung Kai, plaintiffs' testator, and on that four feet of land extending over this narrow strip cookhouses had been constructed by defendant or his predecessor. Cheung Kai's houses, as far as he understood, had no doors opening on to the lane, but had certain windows opening on to it. Under these circumstances the indenture on which plaintiffs were proceeding was made between the late Cheung Kai and Choi Chan. This indenture, which was dated October 9th, 1890, provided for the sale of the narrow strip of land to defendant, the latter, however, agreeing that no buildings should be placed on the land other than those which then existed, and that the buildings then on the land should not be raised in height; and that if these buildings were pulled down or destroyed in any way those constructed in their place should be similar to them. Their charge against defendant was that he had taken down these buildings and re-erected others at a greater height by two or three feet. In doing so he had blocked up some windows in their buildings which were in existence at the time of the deed. The defence was that between the making of the deed and Cheung Kai's death in January, 1894, one portion of the covenant was violated, the buildings being pulled down and others of greater height erected, but that this was done with the consent and knowledge of Cheung Kai.

Evidence having been given for the plaintiffs Mr. Slade applied for the dismissal of the suit on the ground that the evidence was insufficient.

His Lordship said he would give his decision on Mr. Slade's application on Monday.

8th February.

His Lordship disallowed Mr. Slade's application.

Mr. Slade, in opening for the defence, said the houses in Tung Man lane belonging to plaintiffs and defendant were practically back to back houses and there was only the width of the table at which he was standing between the two rows of houses. Of this strip of land the only piece which his lordship was concerned with was about ten inches in width. It was in reference to buildings erected on this breadth only that the case was concerned, plaintiffs having no ground of complaint whatsoever if defendant erected buildings 50 feet or 100 feet high on the remainder. He contended, however, that the alterations which had been made were a positive benefit to plaintiffs.

Judgment was reserved.

FIGHTING AT MANILA.

COLLISION BETWEEN THE AMERICANS AND THE INSURGENTS.

THE INSURGENTS DEFEATED AND DEMORALISED.

Hongkong, 7th February.

A short telegram was received in the city on Sunday which showed that the long-expected had happened at Manila, the Americans and the Insurgents having at last come to blows. The telegram, which was received by Consul-General Wildman, gave no details, and some time elapsed before any confirmation was received. Yesterday, however, a private telegram was received from Manila which ran as follows:—

"Out-post affair Saturday night resulted general attack Americans Sunday. Natives defeated and demoralised. All well here."

Before the receipt of the above wire there were not wanting some who doubted that anything serious had occurred. The Filipino leaders here considered it highly improbable, as Aguinaldo had given strict orders to his followers to refrain from fighting, at any rate until yesterday, when the final vote on the Treaty of Peace was to be taken in the Senate, and they expressed the opinion that if a collision had occurred it had been forced by the Americans so as to affect the vote referred to.

The Filipinos complain of the severe censorship of telegrams imposed by the Americans, contending that it is contrary to the agreement entered into. In the meantime we shall have to await the arrival of a vessel from Manila before we get full details.

Another telegram is said to have been received in town to the effect that the American fleet co-operated with the land forces in repulsing the attack of the Filipinos and that the loss of the latter amounted to 1,900 men.

Hongkong, 8th February.

Though in the United States and at home details of the fighting between the Americans and the Insurgents at Manila on Sunday have been published we know comparatively little in Hongkong, what messages which have been received being of a most meagre description.

Apparently, however, the collision was not expected any more than it has been any time during the last few weeks. Indeed when the *Sungkang*, which arrived here to-day, left Manila Bay at half-past five on Saturday night affairs if anything seemed more settled, and it would appear that the authorities did not anticipate any immediate trouble seeing that some half-dozen American officers came over with the *Sungkang* intending to proceed home. Under the circumstances, however, their plans may have to be altered.

Hongkong, 9th February.

The German steamer *Knivsberg* arrived from Manila yesterday, but she left on Friday, 3rd inst., before the collision between the Philippine and American forces occurred. We received by her the following letter from our correspondent, which describes the position prior to that event:—

THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

Manila, 1st February.

The committee of six presided over by Ramon Avancena has arrived here from Iloilo and gone on to Malolos, where the affairs of the District of Bisayas will be laid, or probably delayed, before General Aguinaldo. As soon as they have reached a conclusion it is expected that they will meet and discuss the question with the American Commission in Manila. This latter body is composed of Brigadier-General Hughes, Colonel J. F. Smith, of the 1st California Volunteers, and Lieut.-Colonel Crowder. For several days they have talked over the situation with a number of officials representing the Republica Filipina, but apparently without definite results. The whole matter has been raked over and a deal of talking done by both sides, so there is reason to anticipate the early reaching of a conclusion. Meanwhile warlike preparations continue with unabating activity. Aguinaldo discourages tourists, correspondents, and others who would venture into the country beyond Manila. Men who have gone to Malolos have not been allowed to alight from the train, but were advised to return to Manila. Many Americans and Englishmen who have been accustomed to ride out to the waterworks and

other places in the vicinity of the city are met with unfriendly looks, and a few days ago a party of cyclists who managed to surmount the obstacles of the road for some ten miles were detained and bothered in many ways. It is rumoured that a consignment of arms and machine guns has been landed along the north coast of Luzon and is now in the hands of the Filipinos; but there is no way of ascertaining the truth of the report. The arms are supposed to have come from Japan.

A NEW GUNBOAT ON THE PASIG.

On January 29th the side-wheeler *Laguna de Bay* went into commission as an American gunboat on the Pasig River.

From its ordinary condition as a passenger boat it has been armed and converted into quite a formidable affair. A six foot protection of double plates of steel, and of an inch in thickness has been put around the vessel and on the bridge two three inch navy guns have been mounted forward and two Hotchkiss 1.65 rifles aft. On the protected bridge are four modern gatling guns, and in addition to the crew there are twenty five riflemen. Captain Randolph, of the 3rd U.S. Artillery, is in command. The dimensions of the boat are, length 110 ft., breadth 36 ft., and as she draws only 3½ ft., all parts of the river and lake can be reached. Each night patrol trips are made that are perplexing to the insurgents, who occupy all the outlying country.

The model of a wonderfully constructed cruiser with a monstrous ram is on exhibition in a window on the Escorial. All day it is watched by curious crowds of Filipinos, who say that the original, the *Independencia*, is being built for Aguinaldo. The call to arms, in response to another supposed terrific attack of the natives which so upset Manila a few days since, has demonstrated beyond a doubt the impossibility of creating a panic in the city or of drawing off the troops on false alarms. In less than ten minutes every street and bridge was so thoroughly patrolled and guarded that a gathering of any kind or disturbance would be absolutely impossible and in each section the troops there would be more than able to meet all emergencies.

In anticipation of the additional regiments soon to arrive, several hundred men are at work levelling and ditching the large square opposite the Luneta. When completed it will be capable of accommodating four or five regiments.

The knowledge of the nearness of the day, 6th February, on which an effort will be made to ratify the treaty in the United States, has spread the idea among a large number of people that Aguinaldo must cause an attack or bring on a fight in the intervening days, or lose a strong point for his independence; for if a rupture occurs and the news can be widely circulated in America, it will certainly bear influence at Washington.

THE "BALTIMORE" COMING TO HONGKONG.

About the end of this month the U.S. cruiser *Baltimore* may be expected at Hongkong, where she will meet the Commissioners from America and convey them to Manila, there to settle the fate of the Philippines.

CODE CABLEING SUSPENDED.

On January 28th notice was served on the Cable Company prohibiting the receiving or sending of code cables whether commercial or political, and all messages of a political nature were forbidden. For several hours the Cable officials and United States Censor were kept busy answering questions. To-day the restrictions have been somewhat moderated; the following notice has been issued and considerably relieves the situation:—

"Code telegrams can be received by all. Unauthorized persons or firms must exhibit code book."

AFFAIRS AT ILOILO.—THE CUSTOMS Muddle.

Two of the American transports have returned to Manila; the *Pennsylvania* with the 51st Iowa Regiment and the *St. Paul* carrying a company of the Tennessee Volunteers. The other ships are still in the harbour with the troops on board and their return is indefinite. No attempt has been made at a landing and place reigns. Iloilo remains quiet and well governed under the Filipinos. In a few days there will be no activity in any circle, as the export trade is practically over and no more produce can be expected. The customs ques-

tion is causing no end of complication and the clearances of the ships now loaded in the harbour may turn out to be curious. The Filipinos claim the duties, amounting to about 42,000, under promises from the shipping firms. These had to agree to a payment or receive no goods; now they wish to pay under protest, to which the Filipinos most naturally object. To go right to the bottom of the question, the United States has no more right to collect customs to-day in Iloilo than Spain, and Spain has no representative there. It will be interesting to know how foreign Powers will receive Filipino clearance papers.

MR. FLEMING'S MURDERERS EXCUSED.

OFFICIALS DEGRADED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] Shanghai, 5th February.

Mr. Fleming's murderers were executed on the 20th.

Six officials have been degraded.

The leading gentry have been degraded of their degrees.

The head man escaped.

[Mr. Fleming, of the China Inland Mission, was murdered, together with a native evangelist, near the village of Tsunguanhang, in Kweichow province, on the 4th November, while on his way from Pailghai to Kweiyang. The village of Panghai had previously, during Mr. Fleming's absence on a trip to another village, been burned by robbers, but up to that time Mr. Fleming had noticed no hostility to himself. After Mr. Fleming had got back a military official named Lin arrived with a number of soldiers and surrounded the mission, and it was the attitude of this official and the conduct of the soldiers that made Mr. Fleming afraid of his own and his companions' safety. He accordingly left for Kweiyang, but on leaving the village of Tsunguanhang, where he had rested for lunch, he was followed by a number of men, and hardly had they gone half a li when the leader, who was armed with a cavalry sword, attacked the evangelist, killing him instantly. Mr. Fleming, who was riding on a mule, dismounted to go to his companions' assistance, and he also was cut down. The officials afterwards put forward the excuse that the crime was the work of rebels, but there were no rebels in the place. The murder had clearly been arranged by the gentry, and the officials took steps to prevent it, if indeed they were not concerned in promoting it.]

THE VOLUNTEER CORPS.

The members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps are to be congratulated on the great success which attended the ball given by them in the City Hall on Tuesday evening. Everything passed off in a manner which left nothing to be desired. As usual on such occasions, the decorator had been for several days previously busily engaged, and though the decorations were not as elaborate as at some other functions of the kind they were exceedingly tasteful and could not have been more appropriate. In the vestibule was a liberal display of greenery from the midst of which peeped several pieces of cannon. The grand staircase was lined with fine plants, but the most striking display of all was made on the first landing. Here was a capital representation of a sand-bag battery overlooking a harbour, the "set" being rendered all the more realistic by Maxims and seven-pounders with their muzzles in embrasures. Above this the wall was covered with Union Jacks in the centre of which was a star of swords. The walls of the ante-room were adorned with the portraits of the present popular Commandant of the Corps (Major Sir J. W. Carrington, C.M.G.) and two of his predecessors in the post, Colonel Jerrard and Major Pemberton. The most prominent decoration in St. George's Hall was a transparency bearing the crest of the corps with the motto "Nulli Secundus in Oriente," a device which frequently met the eye as one strolled about the different rooms.

As some 700 invitations had been issued there would probably be about 850 persons present, and the ball rooms were accordingly somewhat

crowded. The pressure was, however, relieved by a refreshment room, adjoining the ante-room, where light refreshments were dispensed, and a card-room and bar in the Library, where stronger liquors and cigars and cigarettes were to be had. Major Sir John Carrington, as the principal host of the evening, was much in evidence. Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Seymour and Major-General Gascoigne, and Lieut. Hobson, the hero of the "Merrimac" were also present. The death of Prince Alfred of Coburg prevented the attendance of I.R.H. Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia and H.E. Sir Henry and Lady Blake. For the same reason many of the German naval officers were prevented from attending. There was, however, no lack of variety among the uniforms, from the gay scarlet tunic to the khaki-coloured cloth of the Maxim company of the Volunteer Corps.

The music was supplied by the band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, whose playing was much admired. We may add that a feature in the programme was "The Bluejackets' Waltz," by Mrs. Davison, wife of Commander Davison, R.N., of the *Ilumber*, which was given in public for the first time. The composition does Mrs. Davison infinite credit. The following was the full programme:—

Waltz "Victoria & Merrie England."
Waltz "Darling Mabel."
Lancers "Up to Date."
Waltz "The Blue-jackets waltz."
Barn Dance
The Caledonians
Polka "The Little Jap."
Waltz "Eugene Oregon."
Lancers "A Giddy Night."
Waltz "Rosen Aus Dem Suden."
Highland Schottische
Waltz "Mondnacht auf Due Alster."
The Caledonians
Waltz "Memories."
Barn Dance "Hand-in-Hand."
Waltz "Pagliacci."
Galop "The Trumpet Call."

Dancing commenced at nine o'clock, and was kept up until half-past one the following morning. There was an interval for supper, which was served in the Theatre, the following being the menu:—

Roast Turkey.
Cold Ham
Roast Pheasant
Game Pie.
Orange Jelly.
Jam Tarts
Assorted Cakes.
Strawberry Ice Cream.
Pineapple Ice Cream.
Cheese.
Fruit.
Coffee.
Lobster Salad.
Saddle of Mutton.
Roast Beef.
Roast Chicken.
Roast Turkey.
Cold Ham
Game Pie.
Calf's Foot Jelly.
Blanc Mange.
Coffin Ice Cream.
Coffee.

The following were the stewards:—Major Sir J. W. Carrington, Knt. C.M.G.; Captains L. A. C. Gordon, R.A., Chapman, E. D. Sanders; Surgeon Capt. J. A. Lowson; Lieuts. D. Macdonald, G. C. Fullerton, M. W. Slade; Surgeon-Lieut. F. O. Stedman; Corps Q.-M.-Sergt. G. W. Watling; Bty.-Sergt.-Major G. L. Duncan; Coy.-Sergt.-Major F. J. Badgley; By.-Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. J. Coyle; Sergt.-Drummer A. Brown; Sergeants H. M. McPhail, W. H. Armstrong, A. H. Skelton, J. H. Underwood; Corporal M. S. Northcote; Bombardiers A. P. Nobbs, W. Hart; Gunners W. M. Thomson, C. E. Birt, R. Head, A. Uphill, O. D. Thomson.

The *China Gazette* of the 1st January says:—We regret to have to record that Mr. H. W. Gye, who is well known in Shanghai, made what seems a determined attempt to take his own life, though it may have been a misadventure or accident, last evening in the reading room of the Masonic Club, by taking a large dose of morphine. Fortunately he was very quickly discovered to be in an unconscious state and medical aid was summoned in time. Dr. Sloan was happily soon on the spot and was quickly followed by Dr. Reid and Zedelius and prompt measures were taken to prevent the patient succumbing to the effects of the poison. At one time it looked as if he could not recover, but this afternoon we are glad to say Mr. Gye was recovering. No explanation is as yet forthcoming as to his reasons for his action, which has produced a very painful impression.

PIRACY ON THE CANTON AND WEST RIVERS.

MEASURES FOR ITS SUPPRESSION.

THE BRITISH CONSUL MAKES REPRESENTATIONS TO THE VICEROY.

The pirates of the West River and Canton delta appear to be becoming bolder than ever. On the 1st instant a steam-launch owned by Mr. Fisher and running between Canton and Chanchiun left her anchorage off the Custom-house at Canton shortly after 10 a.m. and proceeded on her customary run, but when she had reached a point off Birdsnest Fort she was attacked by a number of pirates who had come on board at Canton as passengers. These men produced revolvers and having overawed the crew proceeded to search all on board and secured booty to the value of over \$200. They then left the launch in a snake boat which was waiting for them and cleared off.

Another case of piracy occurred on the 30th ultimo, when a stern-wheel boat on her way from Canton the Fatsan carrying passengers and cargo was looted by pirates who had taken passage by her.

We are glad to learn that strong representations respecting the present intolerable state of affairs have been made to the Viceroy by Mr. R. W. Mansfield, the British Consul at Canton. Some time ago Mr. Mansfield made a suggestion that the old German 16-knot torpedo boats, of which twelve are lying at Whampoa, being useless for modern warfare, might be very well employed in the suppression of piracy. It was in accordance with Mr. Mansfield's suggestion that two of these boats were sent up the West River the other day and we hope soon to hear that others have been detached for the same service. It would be still more satisfactory if Mr. Mansfield could induce the British Government to take the suppression of piracy into its own hands, or at least induce the Chinese Government to avail itself of the assistance of British officers in carrying out the work.

Over eighty cases of piracy were reported in the native press during 1898 and probably many more actually took place. The reach from Samshui to Shuihing has been particularly infested by pirates. The Viceroy is reported to have threatened the captains of the guard-boats with degradation on account of their lack of vigilance.

PRIZE DAY AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

INTERESTING ADDRESS BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

On the 3rd Feb. was prize day at Queen's College and as usual a large audience was assembled in the principal room for the purpose of witnessing the successful scholars get their rewards. His Excellency Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., presided, and there were also on the platform Mr. G. H. Bateson Wright D.L. (Headmaster) and Mrs. Wright, Bishop and Mrs. Hoare, Lady Carrington, Viscount Suirdale, A.D.C., the Hon. Sercombe Smith, the Hon. and Mrs. F. H. May, the Hon. and Mrs. Ormsby, the Hon. E. R. Belilios, the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Captain Müller, A.D.C., Mr. A. G. Romano (Portuguese Consul-General), Mr. K. Uyeno (Japanese Consul), and the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

The HEAD MASTER read his report as follows:—

1.—The total number on the roll for the year 1898 was 1,344, or 132 in excess of the previous year. The largest numbers present in any one month were 1,014 in February and 1,007 in March, as against 961 and 953 in 1897. The largest attendance in one day was 991, while in 1897 it was 911.

2.—In spite of thus raising our number of seats 924 to 1014, we were obliged to turn away over 120 boys. I therefore reported to the Government that the demand for admission exceeded the accommodation, and recommended an increase in the rate of fees from 1st April. His Excellency the Acting Governor, on the advice of the Governing Body, approved, and Government Notification No. 103 was accordingly published.

3.—The attendance from the end of March onwards was seriously affected by the plague, so that it is not possible to make the reliable

report on the effect of raising the fees. I am, however, of opinion that not more than a dozen boys left on the latter account. Over 100 boys returned in September cheerfully paying arrears, which varied from \$12 to \$18; and 148 new boys were admitted, the largest number ever enrolled in the last quarter of the year; both of which facts may be taken as indications that the Chinese recognise the increased rate as reasonable.

4.—The total amount of fees was \$21,598 which is an increase of \$8,138 upon the previous year's revenue from this source, and more than double the collection in 1896. Owing to a reduction of \$1,200 in the Crown Agents' account, the cost of the College to the Government was \$16,303, or \$9,320 less than in 1897.

5.—The following table will illustrate the varying fortunes of the College during the last five years:—

Average expenditure of each Scholar per Average Daily Attendance.		1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
Average expenditure of each Scholar per Average Daily Attendance.		\$47.22	43.61	52.86	31.06	21.65
Actual Net Expenditure.		\$25,752.00	28,431.50	27,541.15	25,623.52	16,303.91
School Fees.		\$11,562	12,667	9,948	13,460	21,598
Average Daily Attendance.		545	647	521	825	753
Monthly Enrolment.	Maxm.	85	577	489	531	669
	Minm.	861	788	677	961	1,014
Number of School Days.		222	233	235	230	235
Number of Scholars.		1,043	1,024	988	1,212	1,344

6.—In my last report, I stated that the suggestion for the appointment of four Senior and four Junior Assistant Masters, instead of six Assistant Masters, was approved, but that we should have to await another vacancy amongst the Senior Assistant Masters before the full number of eight Assistant Masters could be attained. In view, however, of the increased attendance and ampler revenue, it has been decided to appoint a third Junior Assistant Master at once.

7.—Owing to various departmental economies (\$1,958), the total extra increase in the estimated expenditure for 1899, due to these charges, is \$2,207; at which extra cost the College has the benefit of two additional English Masters and a native Mathematical Master. A further reduction of at least \$1,272 will be effected, when, in accordance with the approved scheme, it shall be found practicable to transfer to other departments one Senior English Assistant Master and two Senior Chinese Assistants. This will leave at most \$935 as the final actual extra expenditure caused by those changes.

8.—Mr. E. Ralphs was appointed on March 23rd, and Mr. B. James, B.A., of Merton College, Oxford, arrived on the last day of September. These gentlemen are the two junior Assistant Masters selected in lieu of appointing one Senior Assistant Master to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Jameson, in September, 1897.

9.—On the 1st March, Mr. U Hang-kam, A.A., distinguished in Mathematics at the Oxford Senior Local Examination, 1896, was

appointed Native Mathematical Master on probation till the end of the year. He discharged his duties most satisfactorily, and was confirmed in the post from the 1st January. The advantages expected to be derived by placing English and Senior Chinese Masters in charge of lower classes for a short time daily have been realised, and in a year or two great improvement in intelligence and acquaintance with English should be perceptible.

10.—Mr. Jones has been seconded to the Supreme Court throughout the year. Mr. Machell went on twelve months' leave after six years' service and nearly a dozen years' continuous residence in the colony. Mr. Hankey, who was acting for Mr. Jones, left for Australia on 1st July. Mr. L. Ut, 10th Chinese Assistant, died of small-pox in January last.

11.—The Oxford Local results this year showed considerable improvement, there being 59 per cent. passes, instead of 18 per cent. Ten certificates in all were obtained—4 Senior, 3 Junior, and 3 Preliminary. The non-Chinese passes are highly creditable. C. B. Hayward obtained distinction in English in the Junior Local Examination, being bracketed seventh out of a list of sixty-three so honoured in all England.

12. Through the kind services of the Inspector of Schools, the declaration of poverty imposed in 1892 as a condition of competing for free education at this College was removed. Candidates must be scholars at the Government Anglo-Chinese District Schools. Eight boys offered last February, but none qualified, the elementary work being far too weak. Now that the Scholarships competition is restored, it is to be hoped that, as in former years, it will prove a stimulus to aiming at a higher standard in the District Schools, and that, as a consequence, boys from these schools may, on admission to Queen's College, be found fit for higher classes than the Preparatory School. The removal of this restriction was, I believe, the last act in connexion with education performed by the ex-Governor, Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., and it will be highly appreciated by the Chinese, as in the ten years when these scholarships were open the free scholars often highly distinguished themselves, and all of them obtained respectable appointments, which, without free education, would, in most cases, have been beyond their attainment.

13.—In June, His Excellency General Black, C.B., as Acting Governor, honoured us with a personal inspection of the work of the College. We were the more gratified with this mark of kindly interest as it is ten years since we were similarly favoured.

14.—We are much indebted to the Hon. Director of Public Works for several improvements. The loopholed wall overlooking the premises from Bridges Street has been made solid, thus putting an end to a long-continued series of nuisances and interruptions. A spiked bar was placed on the gate leading to the playground to prevent incursions from street vagabonds. The store-room was removed elsewhere, and the partition between its former site and a small class-room having been removed an additional large class-room of 60 seats was provided, increasing the accommodation by 24 seats, with a possible annual gain of \$576 in fees.

15.—This institution has recently provided several native masters for schools in Borneo and the empires of China and Japan. At Yokohama, I had the opportunity of paying a visit to the Tung Mau School, under the charge of two of our former pupil-teachers. I found admirable discipline and excellent progress made in the six months since the opening of the school.

16.—In accordance with instructions from the Governing Body, I examined the Lower and Preparatory Schools of this College, the Upper School being reported upon by independent examiners. The result is as follows:—457 boys, or 83 per cent., passed out of 550 examined.

Lower School, 332 boys examined, 249 passed, or 75 per cent.

Preparatory School, 218 boys examined, 208 passed, or 96 per cent.

The work of the Preparatory School is excellent, as usual, requiring only the last quarter of the year for its preparation. The weakness of

the Lower School may be attributed to the fact that the prevalence of the plague rendered necessary a repetition of the course of enforced promotions, the detrimental effects of which in 1897 was referred to in my last report. I am, however, at a loss to account for the obtrusive collapse of the Lower School in the important subject of Arithmetic, the percentages in which are far inferior to those obtained in Grammar, Geography, Composition, and English Conversation, while the results in Reading, Dictation, and Translations from and into Chinese are up to the ordinary average. Under the circumstances, I refrain from commenting in detail on the individual subjects, leaving the figures in the adjoining tables to speak for themselves. I should, however, fail in my duty if I abstained from bearing testimony to the excellent steady work of masters and boys throughout the year in the face of discouraging circumstances.

After reading the report the HEADMASTER said it was now his pleasing duty to welcome His Excellency to that college. It was scarcely necessary to introduce him to the boys, for all the boys and the masters were down at the wharf on the day of His Excellency's arrival in the colony. He thought they could look upon it as an omen in their favour that His Excellency's first appearance in connection with education should be at his own college, for of him as of other Governors it might be said in the old words familiar to them as boys in their Latin grammar, *Tu es patronus tu parentis*. (Applause.)

His Excellency then distributed the prizes, the names of the recipients being given below:—

OXFORD LOCAL, 1898.

Senior—Silas, C.D., A.A.; Pestonjee, R., A.A.; Hayward, E., A.A.; Im yat-wing, A.A.
Junior—Hayward, C.B.; Li Chi-on, Ng Fung-chau.

Preliminary.—Ghulamali, R.; Abraham, R.; Humphreys, E.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

Morrison.—Senior—Im Yat-wing, I; Junior—Fung Mun-chak, IV A.

Stewart.—Wong Tat-kwong, I.

Belilios.—Senior—Silas, E.D., I.C.; Junior—Ho Hing, III B.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Translation—E to C, Tsang Fnk, I; C to E, Sun Wan-un, I.

History—IA Tse Tsing-fong; IC Ismail, S. E.; II A Fung Shin-tan; II B Chau Nai-shan.

Composition.—IC, Silas, M. D.; II A, Tang Chi-kan; II B, U Yut-shu; II C, Solomon, J; III A, Chan Wai-shang; III B, Leung Kwong-kün.

CLASS PRIZES.

I A—1, Im Yat-wing (Morrison); 2, Li Chi-on.

I B—1, Pun Cheuk; 2, Ng Kai-chi.

I C Senior—1, Hayward, C. B.; 2, Ismail, S. A.; Junior—1, Ghulamali, R.

II A—1, Leung Taz-shun; 2, Ho Sai-wing.

II B—1, Hung Hing-kam; 2, Chan Kwai-tsin.

II C Senior—1, Ramjahn, D.; 2, Nakasawa, J.; Junior—1, Dalbasha, A. K.; 2, McIntyre, P. H.

III A—1, Hune Kwok-leung; 2 Kwok Ying-kün.

III B—1, Li Shin; 2, Chung Tat-man.

IV A—1, Fung Mun-chak (Morrison); 2, Chan U-tsing; 3, Luk Tseung-shang.

IV B—1, Chan Mau-to; 2, Lau Hin-lun.

V A—1, Leung San-pung; 2, Pau Shiu-ki.

V B—1, Wong Kwok-sham; 2, U Shau-san.

V C—1, Yung kai-pong; 2, Chan Shui-ün.

VI A—1, Mak Shing; 2, Ng Fung-fu.

VI B—1, U Shing; 2, Yung Hin-chung.

VI C—1, Chau Ching; 2, Ling Kinshang.

VII A—1, Chan Sz-yui; 2, Ip Ching-lau.

VII B—1, Lo Ping-kwan; 2, Leung Shin-kai.

VII C—1, Fung Sz-chan; 2, Ng Shui-ki.

VIII A—1, U Yan-u; 2, Lam Kwan-un.

VIII B—1, Ho Po-tin; 2, Lau Ting-lam.

VIII C—1, Li Ching-i; 2, To Fuk-hi.

The following were the donors of prizes:—Messrs. Ng Kwok Ching, T. Jackson, W. Whaley, H. Mody, Ho Kwan Shan, Tsai Chee Bee, Fung Wa Chun, Lau Hing Shun, Wong Shu Tong, Yeung Nai On, J. D. Hutchison, Ip Chuk Kai, Leung Yan Po, Mok Wan Shenn, Mok Tso Tsun, Wan Tsing Kai, Li In Wing, Ip Shun Kam, Kwok Sik Sam, Ko Yik Kam,

Chan Po Tung, J. P. Madar, Gaupp & Co., Sin Tak Fan, A. G. Romano, Ho Tung, Lau Wai Chun, Leung Sing On, Ho Fuk, Hu Shun Chun, Committee of Tung Wa Hospital, and the Head Master (Dr. G. H. B. Wright.)

His EXCELLENCY having distributed the prizes said—Dr. Wright, ladies and gentlemen, I understand that it has been the custom, though I only understood it within the last two days, for the person who has distributed the prizes at the Queen's College to make some observations after having distributed them. Well, I am one of those people who have a strong objection to delivering themselves on a subject of which they know nothing, and on the subject of the practical working of Queen's College I have not had time up to the present to acquire practically the information that I should like to have. However, I have read the account of the last examination, and so far as one can gather from that the progress made in the school appears in certain cases to be fairly up to the average. The attendance is very large. One point has struck me that I do not quite understand—I have no doubt that Dr. Wright can explain it satisfactorily—and that is that it is reported that many boys were evidently beyond their depths in the upper form, and this was attributed to rapid promotion. On enquiry I find that this rapid promotion has taken place in consequence of a large influx of boys to the lower school and finding a large number of vacant seats in the upper school. I confess that at first sight it does not appear to be a satisfactory way of filling the upper school by promoting boys to it before they have attained that proficiency in the lower forms which would enable them to profit by the instruction in the higher forms. In other words it seems to me to be rather like fitting the foot to the shoe than fitting the shoe to the foot. However, that I have no doubt Dr. Wright will be able to explain. There is another thing which has been mentioned by the examiners. There appears to be a want in the boys of independent thought. Well, I can quite understand that; because after all even in boys rather more advanced in other schools that is a want that is very often observed. I think there can be no question as to the utility of this large institution, because it is clear that if we are ever to consolidate the interest that ought to exist between all classes of the community in a colony like this it can only be done by an attempt to understand each other—(hear, hear)—and those boys who leave this colony after their short schooling here is over must be a certain influence wherever they go in showing at least that the British nation, wherever we have settled—and I am sure it will be found other nations in China will follow suit—we are anxious to bring the benefits of education home to the people of China as well as to the people from western lands. (Hear, hear.) Education, it must be remembered by those boys who can understand me; and I hope there are many of them—I won't say boys, for I see most of you really are young men—that the first necessity in teaching is to enable a boy to reason for himself, not merely to learn a certain number of words or a certain number of phrases. That is a fault I find which has been remarked by the examiners. But education is for the purpose of training your minds so that you may think for yourselves and not be dependent simply upon what you read; but be able to utilise the knowledge you have acquired here in thinking for yourselves. And I would also point out that it is useless to come here and to learn a mere smattering of English if you do not go a little further and learn it thoroughly. I will explain what I mean. A boy leaves this school—and you very often leave I understand when you have just learned enough English to make yourselves understood. You then go out and get an appointment in some shop, and you never can do much more, whereas if you remain a little longer and perfect your education in English you will become much more valuable members of Society when you leave the college, and you will be able to attain to much higher and better positions, because you must remember that every appointment here is open to a Chinese young man as well as to a young man of any other nationality. So it depends upon yourselves to be able to advance yourselves hereafter, which you can only do by working hard while you are here.

and going so far that your studies will be really useful to you when you leave the college, and not merely sufficient to enable you to speak a kind of pidgin English. Now I do not know that there is anything else which strikes me, Dr. Wright, that I can say as regards the institution. You have everything as far as your buildings are concerned. You appear to have everything necessary for comfort in your school. Before the next time I have the pleasure of being here—and I hope it will not be the last time, for it is a most interesting occasion—I hope to have made myself so thoroughly acquainted with the working of the institution—with its possible wants and with its possible failings—that I shall be able to make some observations that will not be entirely barren of results. For the present I can only say that it is a great pleasure to me to be able to come here and to assist by the giving of these prizes, and I hope that those young men whom I see before me will so profit by the instruction they receive here that they, especially the Chinese, may take pattern of their own countrymen—of whom no small number have been successful—that they will follow in the footsteps of those respectable gentlemen whose names it is not necessary for me to mention because they are known to every inhabitant in Hongkong. (Hear, hear.) But I hope the boys here will be found following in their footsteps and will be successful in the future. I hope the utility of this college, Dr. Wright, may be increased and that your present large attendance may be fully sustained in the future; and especially I hope and pray that in the coming year we may be spared from any falling off or diminution in the attendance in consequence of a possible recurrence of the plague. God grant we may be spared that, and that the school may prosper through the entire year. (Applause.)

Dr. WRIGHT thanked His Excellency for his very kind address to the boys. Alluding to the question of rapid promotion he said he thought there must be a mistaken idea as to its evil effects. As His Excellency went through the college with him he pointed out two small boys who had been most successful in winning prizes and who nevertheless had undergone this rapid promotion. With regard to the boys trusting too much to memory that was the first thing which struck him on his arrival in the colony in 1882 and he had been combatting it ever since. In conclusion he invited His Excellency to dismiss them by telling the boys they were breaking up that day to return again on the 10th of March.

His EXCELLENCY made this announcement and expressed the hope that in the interval they would enjoy themselves as much as they possibly could.

The proceedings terminated with cheers for Her Majesty the Queen, His Excellency, and the visitors.

THE PANTOMIME.

Another "last" performance of the pantomime "The Yellow Dwarf" was given at the Theatre Royal on Saturday evening. The pantomime has had a most successful run and the Amateurs deserve the highest praise for the manner in which they have sustained interest in the piece and succeeded in drawing full houses at each performance. More especially is this to their credit as the "Yellow Dwarf," containing as it does no definite theme or plot, the A. D. C. have had to make as it were bricks without straw. But this they have succeeded in doing very successfully. Messrs. Sexton and Caldwell have been the backbone of the piece throughout and to them a great deal of the success of the pantomime is due. Saturday night's performance was perhaps the most successful of the series. Everything was in harmony and the piece went with a rollicking swing which kept the house in a bubble of merriment from start to finish. Several improvements were noticeable in the stage arrangements, and moreover there were no "fires" to interrupt. The company is now in thorough working order and a state of proficiency which would do credit to any professional company. Every member has made himself thoroughly acquainted with his part and consequently an improvement is noticeable in the acting. On Saturday evening Messrs. Sexton and

Caldwell were again the lions, their songs "Let 'em all come" and "For a very, very, long, long time" being great successes. Mr. Skrimshire was still suffering from the effects of the accident at Wednesday night's performance, and was unable to fill the part of "The Knave of Hearts," but he found a faithful understudy in Mr. G. P. Lammert. The leading ladies, Mrs. Fullerton and Miss Murray Bain, were very attractive, their sweet singing winning for them loud applause and encores. Little Queenie Lambert created another sensation. The transformation scene was very effective; the substitution of the anchor for the diver was a very good one. The singing and dancing were admirable, a marked improvement being noticeable in the orchestra. Although Saturday's performance was understood to be the last of the series we believe the Amateurs intend to give another production of the pantomime for the amusement of "Jack" and "Tommy," when the Theatre will be given up entirely to the naval and military. Although no announcement has been made to the effect no doubt another performance or two will also be given in the race week.

THE CHARGE AGAINST THE P. AND O. SHROFF.

SEVERE PUNISHMENT.

At the Magistracy on 7th February, before Commander Hastings, Hu Ki, shroff, was charged with unlawfully keeping a place as a common gaming-house at No. 14, Praya Central, on the 29th Jan. Mr. Dennys appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Ewens for the defence. Mr. Mounsey watched the case on behalf of the compradore of the P. and O. Company.

Patrick Kennedy, formerly in the army but now unemployed, said that on the 25th ult. he saw Inspector Moffat and in consequence he went to the ground floor of the P. and O. office in Praya Central, and with the money given him by the Inspector bought two half lottery tickets—one in the Macao lottery and one in the Shanghai lottery. On the 29th ult. he again saw Inspector Moffat, who handed him \$75, which included a \$25 note. He then went again to the ground floor of the P. and O. office, where he saw defendant. He asked him if he had any Macao lottery tickets. Defendant said he had not, but that he would have some the following day. He then gave him some Shanghai lottery tickets. Witness handed him the \$25 note in payment, and he got \$15 change. Witness subsequently handed the tickets and the change to Inspector Moffat. Shortly after leaving the office witness returned with Chief Detective Inspector Hanson. Defendant was still there, and he had some lottery tickets in his hand.

Inspector Moffat said that on searching the premises he found 51 lottery tickets and \$2,000.

Chief Detective Inspector Hanson said that when he entered the place with Kennedy he told defendant to sit still, as he attempted to rise and said "Those are mine," referring to certain slips? Witness was in plain clothes, and defendant apparently took him for a friend of Kennedy's. Inspector Moffat then came in and they searched the premises.

Mr. Ewens said defendant admitted the offence. He asked the court to deal with him leniently, as he was but a poor man.

Mr. Dennys applied for heavy punishment. Defendant was sentenced to six months' hard labour and fined \$1,000, or in default three months' hard labour.

Mr. Mounsey asked that the money found in the safe should be returned to the compradore, as it was collected on his behalf and he was responsible for it to the company.

The application was refused, the \$2,000 being confiscated.

The Italian warship *Etna* (3,100 tons), the relief of the *Marco Polo* on the China station, arrived at Penang on the 2nd January. She carries a crew of 285 and an armament of 29 guns.

The United States cruiser *Buffalo* arrived at Singapore on the 26th January from Colombo, which port she left on the 21st. The *Buffalo* is under the command of Capt. J. W. Hemphill, is a vessel of 7,500 tons, and has a crew of 700 men, and 14 guns. She sailed on the 27th for Manila.

BROACHING CARGO.

At the Magistracy on 7th February Andrew Hansen and Oscar Rosmisan, of Norway, David McLeod, of Scotland, and John Lawrence, of England, seamen on board the *Benmore*, were charged with having on or about Jan. 31st, on the high seas, stolen a quantity of clothing, a pair of boots, six tins of cocoa, and four fish carvers, in all of the value of \$30, the property of the said steamship. A Japanese seaman said that he and defendants all signed on in London. About three or four days after they had left Singapore he saw the pink chemise produced and a lady's waterproof in the possession of first defendant. He saw them under defendant's bunk. About six days after they had left Singapore he saw the fish carvers in the fore-castle and he saw second defendant put them in his chest. He also saw him put a lady's jacket into his bunk. On the same day he saw third defendant put three pairs of brown boots and six tins of cocoa into his chest and he saw third defendant hand a pair of brown boots to fourth defendant. Three days before the steamer arrived in Hongkong he saw first, third, and fourth defendant's carrying the three sacks produced into the fore peak. They were then full. Second defendant was on the watch. Sergeants Gourlay and Kerr gave evidence as to having searched the ship on the morning of the 4th inst. in consequence of a report made to the water police; and they found several of the articles in question in the fore-castle and in the chests of defendants. Captain Wallace said he discovered that cargo was being broached three days after leaving Singapore. He identified the articles produced as belonging to the ship. When defendants signed on they all got a month's advance—£3 11s. He gave first defendant a further advance of £1 in Singapore. They had been a month and 24 days at sea.—Defendants were each sentenced to six months' hard labour, the balance of their wages to be also forfeited.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

FIRST RACE FOR THE R.E. CUP,

RESAILED 4TH FEBRUARY.

This race turned out to be the final of the three races in this competition, the *Phoebe* having won the third race last week.

The wind was from the east light at the start but quite strong enough for whole sails after the first mark was passed. The course was Meyer's buoy, Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rock, Meyer's buoy, and Channel Rocks, all to port, 10 miles, and the following boats started at 2.15:—Active, Meteor, Princess, Maid Marian, *Phoebe*, Erica, Chanticleer, Bonito, Dart, and Ladybird. The Chanticleer was first round Meyer's buoy, closely followed by Erica, with *Phoebe* a good third. The others were a good way behind even at this early stage, but as the three leading boats made one or two unnecessary tacks, they had not much of a lead at Channel Rocks, when the wind was of good whole sail strength. In the run down to Kowloon Rock, however, they again went away.

A reach with a good breeze brought the boats to Meyer's buoy, where the Maid Marian had made up some of her lost ground. The second time, the Channel Rocks were made in one tack, after which a quick run, during which Erica ran into first place, brought the boats to the finish at the following times:—

	Actual	Corrected	Points.
Erica	4 14 53	4 14 53	4
Chanticleer	4 15 7	4 14 57	1
<i>Phoebe</i>	4 15 41	4 14 36	10
Maid Marian	4 18 12	4 17 43	
Active	4 21 3	4 18 19	
Bonito	4 22 1	4 21 31	
Ladybird	4 24 7	4 20 54	
Dart	4 25 25	4 20 39	
Meteor	4 26 0	4 23 2	
Princess	4 28 5	4 23 6	

The *Phoebe* has shown very much better form in this competition than in the club races and has gained as much as any boat by the recent alterations. She only requires to be well sailed, and she will be generally in the running. Having won two races she takes the Cup with 20 points, Erica being second with 8 points.

FOOTBALL.

SHIELD COMPETITION.

The second match in the first round of the Shield competition took place on Saturday, when the Hongkong Football Club met H. Company of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Play commenced fairly punctual and had only been in progress about two minutes when Lowe sent in a fast shot and scored. The Fusiliers got the best of the restart, and Pinckney had to run back to get the ball out of danger. The Club then got to the other end, Hancock and Danby displaying good combination, but a capital centre by the latter was poorly played by Noble. A corner fell to the Club, but the ball was placed behind. The Club still continued to attack, and it was quite evident that the Fusiliers was no match for the civilians. Looker kicked wide in trying for a goal, and Kew kicked over a minute later. The Club still pressed, and Kew had a good opportunity to shoot, but he elected to pass, and the Welsh got away. Smart gave a corner from a kick by Hancock, but the ball was centred by Howard and the soldiers cleared. Another attack by the Club resulted in Edwards giving a corner, but the Fusiliers cleared again. Lowe got away on the wing and centred to Kew, who made a good attempt to score, the ball just skimming past the left upright. A hot attack by the Club enabled Hancock to secure and try at goal, but he headed over the bar. Played waged fast up and down the field, when the Club again assailed the Fusiliers' goal, a good shot by Lowe grazing the cross bar. A capital centre by Danby was taken by Noble, and he sent on to Looker, who just failed to score. The Club was then pressed and Anton was called upon; he winged to Howard and the latter sent to Danby, enabling the Club once more to get within shooting distance, and the ball was just placed to the right of the goal-post. The soldiers were the next to attack, but Anton and Pinckney worried Shields and Walter and eventually deprived them of the ball. On the Club getting to the other end Smart gave a corner, and Noble headed against the upright. Repeated attacks by the Club kept the Fusiliers busy defending, but they were unable to prevent Looker screwing a second goal. A few minutes later the referee blew his whistle for the interval, the Club having had decidedly the best of the play and a lead of two goals.

The second half opened fast and play waged up and down the field at a great pace, the Club, however, still doing the most pressing, and after about 10 minutes' engagement Lowe got away and sent an oblique shot into the net. Noble towards the close of the game again did the needful. The Club, therefore, left the ground victorious by 4 goals to nil. The players are to be congratulated on winning so decisively. The forward line played a sound game, Danby on the left wing being most prominent. The halves were in good form, and the backs gave a good account of themselves. Kew, when called upon did well, and he fills the custodian's place admirably. Smart and Edwards, the Fusiliers' backs, put in a lot of work; in fact, they were compelled to as they had to act on the defensive most of the time. R. W. Castle, R.A., gave satisfaction as referee, Messrs. Riley, R.W.F., and Tuohy acting as linesmen.

The teams were as follow:—

THE CLUB.		R. W. FUSILIERS.	
Goalkeepers—			
F. H. Kew		Whitney	
Backs—			
Pinckney		Smart	
Anton		Edwards	
Half-backs—			
Mayson		Booth	
Kew		Waller	
Howard		Sweet	
Forwards—			
Danby		Culkan	
Hancock		Hadley	
Noble		Shields	
Looker		Walters	
Lowe		Dobbs	

It is notified in the Gazette that Mr. A. Lee Norman, having left the colony, has resigned his commission in the Field Battery of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the sixty-seventh report of the Court of Directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall Hongkong, on Saturday, 18th February, at noon:—

To the proprietors of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 31st December, 1898.

The net profits for that period, including \$376,916.76, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to \$4,392,189.66.

The Directors recommend the transfer of \$1,000,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of reserve fund, which fund will then stand at \$10,000,000.

They also recommend writing off bank premises account the sum of \$500,000.

After making these transfers and deducting remuneration to Directors there remains for appropriation \$2,877,189.66, out of which the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one pound and ten shillings sterling per share, which at 4/6 will absorb \$533,333.33, and a bonus of one pound sterling per share which at 4/6 will absorb \$355,555.55.

The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend and bonus are declared, and 1/11½, the rate of the day, amounts to \$1,153,664.43.

The balance \$834,636.46 to be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. R. M. Gray has been elected Chairman for the year 1899 and Mr. N. A. Siebs, deputy Chairman.

Mr. R. L. Richardson having resigned his seat on leaving the colony, Mr. R. H. Hill has been invited to fill the vacancy; the appointment requires confirmation at this meeting.

Messrs. C. Beurmann, A. J. Raymond, and David Gubbay retire in rotation and being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. C. S. Sharp, who offer themselves for re-election.

J. J. BELL-IRVING,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1899.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31st DECEMBER 1898.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Paid-up capital	10,000,000.00		
Reserve fund	9,000,000.00		
Marine insurance account	250,000.00		
Notes in circulation:—			
Authorized issue against securities deposited with the crown agents for the colonies	\$10,000,000.00		
Additional issue authorized by Hongkong Ordinance No. 8 of 1898, against coin lodged with the Hongkong Government	2,503,537.57		
Current accounts:—			
Silver	\$55,835,768.57		
Gold, £1,219,604 12s. 9d. =	12,455,841.72		
Fixed deposits:—			
Silver	\$32,107,804.64		
Gold, £2,997,956 15s. 7d. =	30,617,411.94		
Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments)		14,592,602.56	
Profit and loss account		4,392,189.66	
Liability on bills of exchange re-discounted, £4,648,959 8s. 7d. of which up to this date £3,708,805 7s. 9d. have run off.			
		\$181,755,156.66	
ASSETS		\$	c.
Cash	25,259,491.05		
Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against note circulation in excess of \$10,000,000		3,250,000.00	
Bullion in hand and in transit		3,952,081.83	
Indian and Colonial securities		4,907,751.93	

Investments, viz.:—

£250,000 2½ per cent. consols lodged with the Bank of England as a special London reserve	\$1,909,000.00		
£475,500 consols and other sterling securities	4,856,170.21		
		6,755,170.21	
Bills discounted, loans and credits		64,366,272.16	
Bills receivable		72,505,741.44	
Bank premises		757,648.84	
		181,755,156.66	

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

Dr.	\$	c.
To amounts written off:—		
Remuneration to directors	15,000.90	
To dividend account:—		
£1 10s. per share on 80,000 shares = £120,000 at 4s. 6d.	\$533,333.88	
Bonus of £1 per share on 80,000 shares = £80,000 at 4s. 6d.	355,555.55	
	888,888.88	
To dividend adjustment account:—		
Difference in exchange between 4s. 6d., the rate at which the dividend and bonus are declared, and 1s. 11½ the current rate of the day	1,153,664.32	
To transfer to reserve fund	1,000,000.00	
To transfer to Bank premises account	800,000.00	
To balance carried forward to next half-year	834,636.46	
	\$4,392,189.66	

Cr.	\$	c.
By balance of undivided profits, 30th June, 1898	\$ 376,916.67	
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 31st December, 1898, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due	4,015,272.90	
	4,392,189.66	
	\$4,392,189.66	

RESERVE FUND.		\$	c.
To balance	10,000,000.00		
	10,000,000.00		
	\$:	c.	
By balance, 10th June, 1898	9,000,000.00		
By transfer from profit and loss account	1,000,000.00		
	\$10,000,000.00		

SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Directors for presentation at the tenth annual meeting of shareholders, to be held at Shanghai on the 8th February:—

The Directors beg to present their tenth annual report and a statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1898, which they trust will meet with the shareholders' approval.

The profit for the year on Working Account amounts to Taels 134,617.87 as against Taels 118,751.67 last year.

The Profit and Loss Account, after paying the amount of the interim dividend declared in July, shows the sum of Taels 89,435.44 at credit, and this it is proposed to appropriate in the following manner:—

To pay a final dividend of 6 per cent. on the paid-up capital (making 10½ per cent. for the year)	Taels 78,000.00
To transfer to reserve fund (being interest on undeveloped estates Nos. 8 and 9)	5,955.11
To carry forward to new account	5,480.33

Wills's Estate, No. 1.—In March last the directors sold the plot of land at the corner of Astor and Whangpoo Roads (about one acre), with the house upon it, to the German Church Committee for Taels 20,000 and this accounts for the reduction in the capital account of this estate.

The ground lease of Block N., at the corner of Seward and North Soochow Roads, fell in to the Company on the 31st December, 1898, and this will give an increase of about Taels 6,000 in rental during the current year.

Chwong Hoong Estate, No. 2.—A beginning has been made in developing the vacant piece

of land referred to in last year's Report. A contract has been entered into to build 16 houses of a somewhat similar kind to those on the West side of North Szechuen Road, and it is hoped that, on completion, they will quickly find tenants.

Little's Estate, No. 4.—The new buildings commenced in 1897 are now completed and are all let at satisfactory rentals.

Hanbury Road Estate, No. 5.—In last year's Report it was mentioned that the development of this Estate was completed, but the houses alluded to were not quite finished. It is the final payments for these buildings which account for the increased amount of the Capital Account of this Estate.

Jin Kee Estate, No. 6.—Two of the hongs on this Estate have been completed and let. The three hongs on the Peking Road will be finished in a month or two, and have been leased from the 1st April. Contracts for two other large buildings have been signed, and, from enquiries already made, it is confidently expected they will be let as soon as they are ready for occupation, if not sooner.

Estates Nos. 8 and 9.—Nothing has been done with these properties, as the directors feel that the time has hardly yet arrived for the further erection of Chinese houses.

DIRECTORS.

On the departure of Mr. McLeod from Shanghai in July last, Mr. Kinnear was appointed in his place. Mr. Dudgeon retires by rotation but offers himself for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. Wingrove retires, but offers his services for the current year.

H. R. HEARN,
Chairman.

WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

Dr.	Tls.
To charges account	1,464.96
To advertising account	88.17
To agency management	12,000.00
To legal expenses	505.14
To directors' fees	2,500.00
To auditor's fee	200.00
To trustees' fees	500.00
To interest account	18,092.49
To balance transferred to profit & loss account	134,617.87

Tls. 169,968.63

Cr.	Tls.
By gross rentals	201,303.63
Less fire insurance, taxes, water, repairs, &c.	32,099.07
By transfer fees	88.05
By commission account	676.02

Tls. 169,968.63

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To final dividend for 1897 at 8 1/2 per cent.	84,500.00
To transfer to reserve fund	130,000.00
31st July.	
To interim dividend for 1898 at 4 1/2 per cent.	58,500.00
31st December,	
To balance	89,435.44

Tls. 362,435.44

Cr.	Tls.
By balance	219,114.61
31st March, 1898.	
By China Fire Insurance Co., Limited, bonus for 1895	2.25
31st December.	
By balance of premium on new issue of shares	2,745.60
By interest on estate No. 8	4,631.76
By interest on estate No. 9	1,323.35
By balance of working account for 1898	134,617.87

Tls. 362,435.44

RESERVE FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To balance	200,000.00
31st Dec., 1898.	
By balance	70,000.00
31st Dec., 1897.	
By profit and loss account	130,000.00

Tls. 200,000.00

BALANCE SHEET.

Dr.	Tls.
ASSETS.	
Estate No. 1	512,455.68
Estate No. 2	781,182.15
Estate No. 4	255,559.93
Estate No. 5	164,336.35
Estate No. 6	441,593.41
Estate No. 8	82,264.64
Estate No. 9	23,379.27
Cash due by agents	1,621.52
Sundry debtors	53,329.22
Sundry mortgages	383,503.00

Tls. 2,699,222.17

Cr.

LIABILITIES	Tls.
Capital	1,300,000.00
Debentures bearing 6 per cent.	500,000.00
Debentures bearing 5 1/2 per cent.	250,000.00
Debentures bearing 5 per cent.	250,000.00
Profit and loss account	89,435.44
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank current account	56,321.31
Unclaimed dividends	1,550.15
Sundry creditors	51,915.27
Reserve fund	200,000.00

Tls. 2,699,222.17

HONGKONG ICE CO., LIMITED.

The eighteenth ordinary annual meeting of the Hongkong Ice Company, Limited, was held on the 8th Feb. in the offices of the Company, Pedder Street. There were present, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving (Chairman) Captain Tillett, Messrs. W. Parlance, A. Rodger, J. C. Peter, A. B. Smith, H. W. Bell (Secretary), K. Chinoy, Ho Tung, Ho Fook, Lo Cheung Shiu, and Ho U Shang.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I hope that you are all satisfied with the results of the working of this Company for the past year, and will approve of the proposed distribution of profits. It is recommended by the General Managers to again write \$25,000 off property and to pay a final dividend of \$6.50 per share, making in all \$8.50 per share for the year, against \$7.50 for 1897. The outlay in connection with extensions, including the cost of property purchased from the Government, to which I referred twelve months ago, has so far reached \$68,302.67, and an additional expenditure of approximately \$38,000 on a new boiler and other plant will be necessary during the current year. Mr. Parlance considers that when the extensions to which I have just referred are completed, the works will be in a thoroughly efficient state and capable of meeting any increased demand that is likely to arise for some years to come. General expenses have increased about \$4,000 over those of the preceding year, but this extra expenditure has been fully counter-balanced by much larger receipts. Investments of surplus funds on mortgage are now yielding 7 per cent. interest per annum, to be increased next month to 7 1/2 per cent., and the debentures of the Hongkong Wharf & Godown Co., Limited, returning 5 1/2 per cent., will be re-invested on mortgage at the above rate should a favourable opportunity of realizing them occur. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions or give any further information.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts. Captain TILLET seconded.

Carried.
Mr. CHINYOY proposed that Mr. Thos. Arnold be re-elected auditor for the ensuing year. Mr. HO TUNG seconded.

Carried.
The CHAIRMAN—That is everything. Dividend warrants will be sent out to-morrow.

The correspondent who writes on dusty roads, and whose letter will be found in another column, will have many supporters. Is it not the Sanitary Board's business to attend to the watering of the roads? If so, why does it not do its duty? The Governor also ought to have something to say in the matter, seeing the example His Excellency has close at his own door. Still, after all is said and done, roads have a way of becoming dusty in the course of a four or five months' drought.

THE PUNJON MINING CO. LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following progress report on work done at the Company's mines in Pahang during the month of December, 1898:—

MINING AND PROSPECTING.

Jalis, August Shaft, Level No. 3.—Prospecting Winze No. 1, North Drive from.—Driven 24ft on the lode, which continued out in the bottom of drive on its dip here, and low grade. South Drive from.—Driven 17 feet on the lode, which continued out in the bottom of drive on its dip here, and low grade. 83 tons of ore from the above two drives milled 4.62 dwts. gold per ton.

Prospecting Winze No. 2, Cross cut south from east drive from.—Driven 17ft. through lode to the foot wall thereof and stopped. The ore driven through is very low grade.

Prospecting Winze No. 3.—This was started north of the "East and West" lode not far from it, in the hanging wall country rock, and sunk 12 feet, coming into the lode between the level and that depth, but the ore is very low grade where cut.

Tankong Shaft.—This was sunk 14 feet through country rock above the lode. If the lode continues down on the dip it has in Level No. 1 this shaft will soon cut it.

Level No. 1.—This was continued 24 feet on the lode, it continuing strong and well defined but too low grade and refractory to mill.

New Find.—Prospecting on and near the surface of this lode was continued. It still proves to be a massive body of quartz, but almost barren of gold.

Manik.—The shaft was sunk here 42 1/2 feet, proving what was thought to be the lode was not continuous with depth where sunk. This shaft was sunk to connect with adit tunnels as well as develop the ground. Surface cut continued in gold bearing dirt, but the high grade ore has proved quite limited in quantity so far. 150 tons from this surface cut milled 6.35 pennyweights gold per ton.

Kolampong.—Drive No. 2, East.—This was continued 30 feet on leaders, some quartz showing at times, but nothing of value developed.

Selango.—Surface prospecting was continued here, but owing to the wet weather but little progress could be made.

Hadji.—Prospecting was continued here, 135 feet of drives being driven and a small lode cut, but not payable stone.

Bintang, Swah.—These are two places showing considerable quartz about and old native workings in the immediate vicinity of each, where prospecting work has been instituted.

Gubau, Mulumet, Sunghie Russa, Sunghie Sur.—At these several places, in the Bukit Sarong section, prospecting was continued but owing to the wet weather little could be done and nothing of any importance was developed.

REDUCTION WORKS.

Mills 22 Stamps.—These were run 26 days 22 hours.

Pans.—Part of these only were in condition to be run.

Ore and product were treated for amalgam and bullion as follows:—

Stamps—	Ore crushed.	Tons.	Amalgam ozs.	Bullion ozs.
Headings	2,423	454.90	164.15	
Jalis	83	43.15	15.58	
Manik	150	122	44.03	

Pans—	Sundry product	5.75	2.06
Jalis concentrates	10	3.60	
Manik Do	10	3.60	

Total ... 2,656 645.80 233.02

Bullion assay here—

Gold 861 fine = £3 1 1/2 per oz.
Silver 118 " = 2.8 " " at 2s. per oz.

Total £3 13 4 1/2 per oz.

Cyanide Works.—These were cleaned up for November and December, during which time they were not run to their full capacity but in an experimental way, and again the results have not been satisfactory. The principal, in fact the whole reason therefor I attribute to the fact that the tailings we have are of such a character as not to be susceptible to satisfactory cyanide

treatment. 1.2 tons were treated during the two months having an assay value before treatment of 3 dwts. 20 grs. gold per ton. Of this 55.1 per cent. was recovered, being 44.25 ozs. bullion of a value of £1.13s. per oz.

GENERAL.

Water Power.—This has been ample for our needs.

Rainfall.—9.68 inches during the month.

Health.—This has been fair, generally.

Roads and Bridges.—During the month a first class wooden bridge was completed over the Jalis river; and a cart road from Bukit Sarong in the Northern part of our territory to Batu Burong on the Jelai River, about 4½ miles in length, was completed.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram giving the result of the January clear up:—"The mill ran 28 days crushing 2,000 tons yielding 205 ozs. of smelted gold."

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE TANJONG PAGAR DOCK CO., LIMITED.

Those shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. who have from time to time agitated for the sub-division of the shares of that prosperous concern may be interested in the particulars of a scheme of reconstruction just decided upon by the Tanjong Pagar Dock Co., Singapore. The Company was first registered in 1864 with a capital of \$90,000. This has been from time to time increased and now stands at \$1,500,000, besides which there are debentures outstanding amounting to \$614,500. The \$100 shares are now quoted at from \$145 to \$450. The assets of the Company have largely appreciated and it has now been decided bring up the capital of the Company to a figure more nearly corresponding to the real value. Resolutions were accordingly passed at a meeting held on the 28th January authorising the reconstruction of the Company, the new Company to have a capital of \$3,000,000 divided into 30,000 shares of \$100 each, each shareholder in the present company receiving two new shares for one old one.

THE SOYBEAN COTTON MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The fourth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., Shanghai, on the 3rd January. Mr. G. Galles presided and there were also present Mr. E. Karbe (Vice-chairman), Mr. C. Brodersen, Woo Saw-chin, and Woo Chin-fuh (Directors), Mr. Phillip Arnhold (general manager), Mr. H. Lehmann (sub-manager), Mr. J. Nölting, Mr. A. W. Danforth, Mr. W. Grage, Mr. Lamond, Mr. A. C. Ramdor, and Baron Schnitzler from the German Consulate-General, representing 1,655 shares.

The Chairman in opening the proceedings said:—Gentlemen, the report has been in your hands for some time and, with your kind permission, I will take it as read. As you will have seen from the figures, we have to deplore the loss of Tls. 18,337.61 on the past year's working. The causes which have led to this regrettable result are manifold. In the first instance we had to stop the mill for about three weeks consecutively on account of wilful damage done to our machinery, for the same reason having to interrupt work on about 20 occasions for several hours and sometimes for half-a-day or half-a-night—this occurring in the best season of the year for the sale of the yarn. We had to keep the hands on half wages even during the time of the entire stoppage in order to prevent them going elsewhere, and the cost in this respect alone—not taking into account loss of market and interest—has been considerable. As an illustration I will mention that the curtailment of production may be estimated at about 2,000 bales, which at the period might be computed to have realised a profit of at least Tls. 5 per bale. In the second instance the market—besides being glutted by heavy shipments from India and Japan—was in such an unsatisfactory condition, generally, that sales were well-nigh impossible

during the whole of the summer months and even part of the Fall—entailing thereby a loss of interest much larger than would otherwise have been the case. Third, and lastly, Cotton advanced continuously from Tls. 15 in January last to 17.50 in August, receding again with the arrival of the new crop to Tls. 12½ in September; whereas Cotton yarn declined from the top price of Tls. 70 for No 10 to Tls. 59 for the same spinning. Now, gentlemen, you will all be aware that a manufacturing concern of such magnitude cannot afford to cease production at all fluctuations of the raw material and if there occurs a stoppage in the sale of the produce, as has taken place during the past year, there is scarcely anything else to be done but to stand by the loss. With these facts before you and taking especially into consideration the depreciation in Yarn, which I have mentioned, it would be surprising indeed if we had not made a loss, and much as I regret it, I am of opinion, that all things considered the result is not by any means disheartening. In fact as far as the working of the mill is concerned, we are not without some redeeming features to report. When we met in January last I informed the meeting that we had 35,000 spindles at work and were then producing 60 bales per day. At the present moment we have 39,312 spindles running and we are turning out—actually ready for delivery—90 bales per day. The cost of labour we have been able to reduce gradually by about 15 per cent. and we are continuing to make headway in that direction as well as reducing the amount of waste accordingly as the workpeople become more skilful. It may please you to learn that our chops are amongst the best liked and are held in high repute by consumers. Times like these we have just gone through will probably not be experienced again very often and anyhow we are now on a basis of prices of which it may be assumed that they are sufficiently low to cause no further anxiety. The present values of yarns as compared with the cost of cotton are leaving a fair margin for profit. Speaking generally about the prospects of cotton spinning in China, I may say that the reverses which the local mills have all suffered more or less are perhaps after all not entirely to be regretted because if the contrary had happened no doubt the profits realised would have called into life a large number of similar concerns for which the country is not yet prepared and the evil day would only have been delayed to fall upon us with still greater force. As it is, the consumption of local yarns is only just now in a fair way to find a wider market, which will increase considerably as the Chinese learn to appreciate the superiority of the home-spun article over many others and, in course of time may become unlimited when better facilities for carrying on the goods towards the interior will be established. One of the features which is not to be lost sight of is the fluctuation of exchange, as the rise that has taken place during the latter part of 1898 is certainly in a great measure accountable for the overstocking of the market with produce from our India and Japanese competitors. In concluding I have merely to say that our stock of yarn on the 31st of December had been valued at a safe figure and that our production has been fully sold. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions you may wish to ask.

No questions being asked,

The Chairman moved and Mr. Brodersen seconded the adoption of the report and accounts which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Nölting proposed and Mr. Lamond seconded the re-election of the retiring directors, Woo Saw-chin and Woo Chin-fuh, which was also agreed to.

The appointment of Mr. Brodersen to a seat on the directorate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Koch was confirmed, on the motion of Mr. Arnhold seconded by Mr. E. Karbe.

Mr. Galles proposed and Mr. Danforth seconded the re-appointment of the auditor, which was agreed to.

The Chairman thanked the shareholders for their presence and the meeting terminated.—*N. O. Daily News.*

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

DANGERS TO NAVIGATION ON THE WEST RIVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—It is now over two years since the West River was thrown open to steam navigation and nothing has been done to mark the many dangers to navigation which exist on that waterway and its outlets. Were no dues collected from shipping other than those levied on the goods carried there might be some excuse for the negligence exhibited, or if the marks necessary would entail great expense, that might perhaps be advanced as a reason for not taking them in hand; but neither of these reasons can be pleaded. Tonnage dues have been levied on foreign and native steam craft and on foreign sailing craft since the opening of the river and it would be no exaggeration to say that not ten cents of those dues have been devoted to rendering the many dangerous reaches of the river which exist, especially above Takhing, more safe to navigation. A few spar beacons to mark out the crossings and some of the more dangerous sunken rocks would cost little and a fraction of the tonnage dues collected would be ample to not only do this but to provide also for lights and buoys where required.

The policy exhibited here is in accordance with that followed elsewhere, viz. to collect as much revenue as possible as tonnage dues and to expend as little as possible on the purpose for which it is ostensibly levied. In any civilized country a lighthouse would long ago have been erected on such a position as Capeuimoon, showing both up the Lantao Channel and in the direction of Hongkong, with a small light on the little islet on the Hongkong end of it where all vessels approaching from Hongkong have to round up into the Capeuimoon Pass. Another small light might well be placed on the northern end of Capeuimoon Island to light the approach to the pass to the north of it and thus clear off some of the traffic that way and lessen the danger of collision in those narrow and much frequented channels. At least one steamer has run ashore here and one or two collisions have occurred in the pass, fortunately, so far, without fatal result, but such immunity from serious calamity cannot always be expected. The tonnage dues levied on vessels frequenting the port of Canton would have paid for the cost of such lights years ago and still have left a very large amount to swell the general revenue.

From time immemorial some of the worst dangers in the upper river have been marked by the local fishermen by bamboos stuck in the bed of the river as near the danger as possible, i.e. as near a rock as a soft patch, to allow of the thrusting down of a bamboo can be found. In the Lucheng (Dosing) reach, this work is done by lepers, each bamboo having a leper boat attending it. The lepers are paid by passing craft, the payment in case of steamers usually being twenty cash tied on to a few sticks of firewood and thrown to the boat. The fishermen in other reaches collect their fees by some other method, probably a levy at calling ports on the river. This primitive way of marking out the dangers is still in existence two years after the river is opened to steam navigation. Of course the bamboo show no indication as to on which hand they are to be left when ascending and descending the river or whether it is safe to pass optionally on either side of them. In civilized countries beacons are placed over a danger and painted various colours to indicate whether it is to be left on the port hand, or starboard hand, or if it is safe to pass it, optionally, on either hand.

As an illustration of the dangers which exist it may be mentioned that a crossing a few miles below Wuchow at present has only 7 feet 6 inches of water in the channel and the channel is not more than twenty yards wide, there being submerged rocks on either hand; further, one bank has to be hugged in ascending and then at a certain point—unmarked, be it remembered—the vessel has to turn at a sharp angle across the river and having crossed, has for several miles to follow a winding channel to

THE BURGOWNE CASE.

avoid rocks and banks on either hand. A vessel drawing 7 feet 6 inches has thus to practically scrape over the ground at one point with dangerous rocks close on either hand, which were also to touch would knock a hole in her bottom, to the risk of loss of vessel and cargo. What is urgently wanted is, on the lower river, one or more buoys marking banks on either hand, outside of the Wangmoon entrance to river, spar beacons on all rocks in channel and marking outer edge of sand banks extending out into river; on upper river, spar beacons on the river bank indicating crossings, and buoys to mark sunken rocks and outer edge of sand banks. On the upper river spar beacons in the bed of the river are unsuitable for several reasons, viz., the rocky nature of bottom, the great rise of water in the wet season and their liability to be knocked away by descending craft and by the immense timber rafts which float down river and constitute one of the many dangers to navigation at night.

If the Coast Inspector or his Deputy have not yet visited this section of their dominions it is about time that one of them did, before some calamity happens to call their attention to it.

Tide poles are also wanted at certain points on the river to indicate the level of the water and act as a guide to the depth of water to be found in the various channels at different periods of the year; these tide poles should be set to one standard level cut in the rocks.

SHIPMASTER.

Hongkong, 2nd February, 1899.

POSTAL RATES AT CANTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—As if postal grievances were not enough, one is added to the list here. Canton has a British Postal Agency, and all rules of the Hongkong head office are applicable here, still it is inexplicable why the ocean penny postage system is not extended to its branch.

H. S. K.

Canton, 3rd February, 1899.

FOUL AND DUSTY ROADS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I never saw such a filthy condition of things as was presented by the roads to-day; on the distance from the centre to East Point was one cloud of dust above with dirt below. What is the meaning of this state of matters? I was shocked to meet an English lady on foot, and another in a chair, both evidently very much annoyed and perplexed.

Seeing that the salt sea water adjoins the Praya, and is only a few yards from the Queen's Road, what reason can be found for the neglect of using it? It is the best possible preservative, and acts almost like cement in binding the stones. Upon sanitary grounds, too, the laying of the dust and fixing it until the rains come and cleanse the surfaces is most essential. The neglect of watering during the last few months is bearing fruit in the ruin of some of the higher roads; and I was astonished to see the state of the roads about Government House on the occasion of the recent gathering. Whilst there is water in the harbour no justification can be found for dust flying in the lower levels, and water is still running in some of the nullah streams which might be employed for the higher.—I am, yours faithfully,

WAYFARER.

Hongkong, 8th February, 1899.

Sir John Carrington's friends and the members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps in particular will be pleased with the portrait of the gallant Commandant which has just been issued as a supplement to the *Camp Gazette*, 1898, and copies of which we have received from Captain A. Chapman. The likeness is a striking one and the printing, in photogravure, excellent.

It is reported that the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith is to be appointed Police Magistrate, in succession to the Hon. H. E. Wedehouse, that the Hon. A. M. Thomson succeeds to Mr. Smith's appointment as Colonial Treasurer, and that the office of Postmaster-General will probably be conferred on Commander Hastings.

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 1st February John William H. Burgoyne appeared to take his trial upon an indictment in two counts charging him with falsely representing that he was possessed of 1,650 pieces of lamb-skin clothing and furs then in a godown in the Canton Road, by which means he obtained Tls. 20,000 from the Russo-Chinese Bank to be paid to his account, and further that he falsely pretended that a certain godown receipt, or delivery order, given by him was a valuable security whereas it was not.

The Crown Advocate (Mr. H. P. Wilkinson) prosecuted, the prisoner being defended by Mr. D. McNeill (Messrs. Dowdall, Hanson, and McNeill).

The Crown Advocate, in opening the case for the prosecution, said it was the painful duty of the Jury to say whether the prisoner was guilty or not guilty of the offence alleged against him, and it was his (the learned advocate's) painful and bounden duty to lay before them such facts as would, he thought, prove to them that the accused was guilty. The accused was charged, in the first count, with obtaining from Mr. Werth, one of the managers of the Russo-Chinese Bank, Tls. 20,000, which was paid to the credit of his bank account in consequence of certain false pretences, and in the second count the allegation was that a certain godown order upon which he obtained the advance was not a good security, as he falsely represented it to be. It would be unnecessary to point out to the Jury, who were business men, the system whereby banks advancing money required security. On the 26th of March the accused, Burgoyne, wanted money placed to his credit, and the bank before doing so wanted some security which would justify them in advancing it. The case was a simple one, so that it was unnecessary to more than point out that he obtained the money by way of a loan by false pretences. Although the defence might prove that the accused at the time he obtained the advance hoped by means of other transactions and by large dealings in these or other goods to have, before it should be found out that the goods were not in his control, sufficient money to repay that advance—if such a defence were made even so the prisoner would be guilty of the false pretence and liable for it. Mr. Werth would give evidence that Tls. 20,000 were placed to Burgoyne's credit on the representation he made, that he had as his own and in the godown, lambskins and furs valued at Tls. 25,000, and upon his pledging them with the bank as security by giving a document making them deliverable to their order. Mr. M. Speelman would give evidence as to the advance of the money, and the keeper of Messrs. Dowdall, Carlill's godown would give evidence that on the 26th of March there were no such skins in their godowns, as the accused had represented, belonging to him, and that if there were skins there they were the property of others. Mr. Otto Meuser, of the firm of Dodwell, Carlill & Co., with which the accused had been long and honourably connected, would also confirm the evidence of the godown keeper. Mr. Burkhardt, who had charge of all the securities for goods pledged to the Russo-Chinese Bank, would give evidence that when he went to look for the goods they were not there.

From the evidence it appeared that there were skins in the godown, which ultimately went forward on Mr. Burgoyne's account, but that they were paid for by Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

No evidence was tendered for the defence, but it was contended by the prisoner's counsel, who had cross-examined with reference to the point, that the loan was really made to Mr. Burgoyne in consideration of his giving the Bank a share in Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill, & Co.'s exchange business.

His Lordship in summing up said and the questions for the Jury were briefly these:—(1) Did the accused represent that he had 1,650 skins in the godown of Dodwell, Carlill and Co.? (2) Was this false? (3) Did this representation induce the bank to make the loan? (4) Did he, by the representation that he made, intend to defraud the bank? In conclusion his Lordship said—I dare say you have had, what we all must have had, the most pain-

ful day's work which have been imposed upon us. Quite apart from whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty, the mere fact of bringing him here is terribly painful to us to remember. But, however painful the duty may be we must do it. If you think that the Crown has made out its case you must say so, and when you have, if you have the misfortune to say so, it is my duty to act, but in the meantime remember this, that upon your verdict, if you believe these charges to be true, upon your verdict greatly depends the honesty and good reputation of Shanghai. This is a commercial community. Its whole honour and prosperity lie in the hearts, in the actions, of its merchants, and it is for you to see that if there is anything done wrong, that that wrong shall be punished. Gentlemen of the Jury, however painful it may be, if you think the prisoner has done what he is charged with doing, you must say so, and with these words I dismiss you to consider your verdict.

The jury answered all the questions in the affirmative and found the prisoner guilty on both counts.

The prisoner's counsel had taken two legal points in the course of his argument, namely, (1) that if all the evidence given by the witnesses for the Crown were correct and regarded in its most favourable light for the prosecution, it was only evidence of obtaining credit, which was not an offence within the meaning of the Larceny Act; and (2) that the document given to the bank, if anything, was a bill of sale which was void by non-registration and therefore not a valuable security. The 4th February was fixed for the argument of these points.

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai, on the 4th February, before Sir N. J. Hannen, Chief Justice, John William Henry Burgoyne was brought up for sentence.

Mr. H. Parkes Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, appeared for the Crown, and Mr. Duncan McNeill (Messrs. Dowdall, Hanson and McNeill) for the prisoner.

The Court was crowded with spectators.

Mr. McNeill—On the last day two points were reserved for argument, one arising out of each count of the indictment. Had these points been decided in favour of the accused they might possibly have been discussed afterwards. The jury having, however, decided against him, it is otherwise now. But I felt that even if I succeeded in convincing your Lordship I should not dare to say that I could establish Mr. Burgoyne's innocence after the jury had found him guilty. Mr. Burgoyne feels very strongly himself on this point and has instructed me, with your Lordship's permission, to abandon these points and he leaves himself entirely in your Lordship's hands.

The Crown Advocate—May it please your Lordship, I was, of course, prepared to argue those two legal points. But I may say that there are three other indictments for obtaining sums amounting to Tls. 60,000 more, and one other indictment alleging the same offence in a different form, but as the counsel for the prisoner has withdrawn his argument, the Crown will take no further action.

His Lordship—As the points have been abandoned it is not necessary for me to say more than this: Well, I think they were quite proper to be reserved and mentioned by the counsel for the prisoner, yet I consider that so far as the second point is concerned the question of the validity of the document, which the prisoner gave to the Bank, I cannot myself see how even if it was found valid, and I do not say whether it was or not, it would have any effect upon whether he was rightly convicted or not. With regard to the first point as to whether it was money or credit that was obtained, without saying whether if he had obtained credit only, the act would not still have affected him, I may say after having considered and without my hearing counsel upon it, I had come to the provisional conclusion, and as I now may call it, the absolute conclusion, that it was money and not credit that was obtained. I say that much in order that it may be plain that to my mind the verdict of the jury was correct and the conviction of the prisoner upon this indictment in its present form was legal. Mr. Burrows, ask the prisoner whether he has anything to say.

Mr. Burrows (Clerk of the Court)—John William Henry Burgoyne have you anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon you?

The Prisoner: My Lord, I confess that I made a great mistake in handing the document to the Bank, and feeling that I had made a mistake I confessed that mistake before the Magistrate. I assure you that when I went to Mr. Werth and asked him for a loan of Tls. 20,000 I had not the faintest inclination or wish to defraud the Bank. I had at that time owing me moneys far in excess of Tls. 20,000, which I believed at the time would be paid to me. If they had been paid to me my debt to the Bank would have been paid long ago and I would not be in this unfortunate position I am in now. That is all I have to say and I leave myself in the hands of the Court.

His Lordship, in passing sent-nee, said: A case of this sort is most painful to everybody concerned, and it is therefore no good for me to make any remarks upon it. It has been, of course, a matter of the deepest anxiety to me to arrive at a just conclusion as to what should be your punishment under the circumstances. What all these considerations have been it is impossible for me here to say. I have given it most anxious thought and this is the conclusion I have come to: John William Henry Burgoyne you have been convicted by the jury of obtaining money under false pretences. The only sum that was mentioned in the indictment with which we are now dealing was Tls. 20,000, but at the preliminary hearing you were charged with obtaining Tls. 85,000 and you admitted the charge. Under these circumstances and after all that has taken place, I consider it my duty to sentence you to 15 months' imprisonment. The prisoner was then removed.

THE REBELLIONS IN CENTRAL CHINA.

A Wuchang telegram states that the General Commanding Viceroy Chang's troops in the disturbed district of Changlo has reported the capture of the chief rebel, named Hsiang. This man having declared that his object was the destruction of Christians, he was immediately led out to execution and his head is now being exhibited in all the villages whose people joined him in the recent insurrection. The execution of Hsiang stops all further apprehension of trouble on the Hupoh-Szechuan borders.—N. C. Daily News.

Reports in native papers show that the Koyang rebellion is nearing its end, the officials having gained successive victories over the rebels, and the issue of necessary relief to the famished people will prevent a further rising. The magistrate of Koyang has been removed from office and another magistrate ordered to disperse the remaining rebels at the same time distributing relief amongst the people.

A telegram from Luchow says that the rebels who have swept southward from Koyang have been defeated at the village of Chang by the soldiers and volunteers conjointly and over 100 of them have been captured or killed. The left wing of the Huan troops are stationed at Mengcheng, while the right wing keeps guard at Pochon and a number of cavalry are patrolling the district of Taiho. A telegram from Ngankin states that the rebels have been exterminated. Brigadier Nui has also turned back with his men.—Mercury.

NANKING LIKELY TO BECOME AN OPEN PORT.

We learn from a most trustworthy source that Nanking will be almost immediately declared an open port.

Under the French Treaty of 1858 Nanking is an open port already and is supposed to "enjoy the same privileges as Canton, Shanghai, Ningpo, and Foochow." With regard to Nanking, the French agents in China shall not deliver passports to their nationals for the city until the rebels have been expelled by the Imperial troops. However, Nanking is not yet an open port, although specified as such above, but its formal opening can doubtless be claimed at pleasure by the French Government. The city is mentioned as a Treaty Port in the Revised Yangtze Regulations which are to come

into effect on the 1st April next, so probably it is to become *de facto* an open port at that date.—Mercury.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 23rd January.

There are reports, persistent but more or less vague, from Peking that there is a rift in the Reactionary lute; or, to follow French phraseology, that the Right seems disposed to divide into two camps, one of which, the Right Centre, is favourable to the present regime; and the other, the Extreme Right, disposed to a most thorough reactionary policy, viz., the deposition of Kwang Su and the election of a Prince entirely in harmony with ultra conservative views. Personally I am extremely dubious as to the truth of these reports; they are the generally known in the legations or among not better informed Chinese down here. Moreover, Jung Lu, the pivot on which the Autumnal Revolution turned, is credited with the intention of leaving Peking for a week before the New Year on a tour of military inspection. If mischief is on the brew the prime upholder of the present *ménage* is not likely to be absent.

Through trustworthy native sources I hear that a dual *outrance* is being fought in the capital between Hu Yen-fuh, the existing Director-in-chief of Railway Construction and Maintenance, and Chang Yen-mao, the aspirant to that office. The battle is being fought on the usual Chinese lines. The more astute think that the victory will go to Chang if the combatants are left to themselves; he has the longer purse and knows "Peking" better than his opponent. Many affect to believe that his victory will prove ultimately a severe blow to British interest, as he has very powerful German backing. I am disposed to think otherwise. If Mr. Pavlov's high-handed proceedings re British engineers in the Ultra Great Wall line failed through the strenuous efforts of Sir Claude it is not at all likely that Chang, even if he were willing (and there is no ground for supposing he would be willing) would be able to replace the present railway staff. People are wont to forget that the Chinese, with all their failings, are very sensible of their obligation for duty well done. They seldom treat good service shabbily and when long duration is superadded to excellence they are the last folk in the world to act unjustly. These remarks are peculiarly apposite to the relations between the officials and the able engineer-in-chief with his staff.

We have it on good authority that Sir Claude is going to take a run home this Spring to recuperate his strength, which has run down under pressure of business and its implied confinement to unsavoury Peking. If the Minister goes on furlough, British interests will be in the strong and capable hands of Mr. Bax-Ironside. The Legation will be unprecedentedly short handed, as the Second Secretary is absent on leave, and Dr. Cockburn is home on furlough. The C.B. conferred on this gentleman after so short a service as eighteen years has given the greatest satisfaction in Peking; where only his ability and devotion are known. Mr. Cockburn's services to Sir Claude and his two predecessors were simply invaluable.

It is almost ancient history to state that a large contingent of the Peking community visited us at the New Year and tried conclusions with us at polo, football, and ice hockey. They won the last mentioned hands down, but failed at the others. The polo match was very interesting as the first inter-community one in China. The visitor's team consisted of three Indian officers and an able and brilliant journalist who is in the fore-front in every phase of sport known to Britishers. At the last moment one failed, so the match had to be played three aside. We had to mount our visitors—a very great handicap for them—so the issue (Tientsin 5 goals to love) was not surprising.

The metropolitans talk of return matches at China New Year to dispute our superiority in every phase of sport. They have issued a sort of *ocumenical* challenge, which it is understood embraces Polo, Rugby, Soccer, Chess, Billiards, Athletics, Bicycling, Skating, and Hockey. It has been accepted provisionally.

Mr. Wu Mai-tung, better known in Hongkong as Wu Jun-pas, the Bank's Tientsin compradore, has issued a notice of resignation from the Railway Directorate. Mr. Wu retires ostensibly from pressure of other business; but this statement has not lessened speculation as to the real cause of his secession. In many respects the resignation is to be regretted. Mr. Wu's presence was a guarantee of liberal and honest administration.

Tientsin is at present a Celestial Capital and Tarentum quite given over to pleasure. For the second year in succession the River has not frozen at the Bund, and sea communication has been maintained for the mails via Paitaiho. Business is at its minimum, and the movement of society is *allegro*. Our Thespians gave a brilliant performance of the "Mikado" on 6th January, when we mustered the greatest audience on record (400).

HONGKONG.

The Hongkong Football Club beat Kowloon on the 8th February by one goal to nil.

There were 2,877 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 204 were Europeans.

The jurors in the case of A. Hok v. Bellilos have been excused from service on the jury for one year.

The flag at Government House was half-masted on 8th Feb. on account of the death of Prince Alfred of Coburg.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead returned from Japan by the P. M. steamer *China* on the 5th February.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart arrived by the P. & O. steamer *Coromandel* on the 4th February.

The *Straits Times* says speculators are making about 9 per cent. upon consignments of Straits copper coin to Hongkong where these coins are very scarce.

The return of the number of cases of communicable disease notified as occurring last week shows that there was one case of diphtheria (fatal), two of enteric fever (one death), and three cases of smallpox, of which two were on the *Undaunted*.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys & son, General Managers of Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received the following telegram from the Mines: "Mill ran 25 days crushing 625 tons of stone for a yield of 303 ozs. of retorted gold."

The Cricket Club flag was flying at half-mast on the 8th Feb. on account of the sad intelligence received from Shanghai of the death of Mr. G. Darby, of the Bank of China and Japan, an old member of the Cricket Club and of many other of our local institutions. News was received a few days ago that Mr. Darby was suffering from typhoid fever, and a telegram received on the 8th stated that the disease had had a fatal termination. Mr. Darby was an enthusiastic cricketer and took a keen interest in various other games and sports. He was also a clever comedian and had often contributed to the amusement of Hongkong audiences at the performances of the Amateur Dramatic Club. In Masonry Mr. Darby was also prominent and had passed the chair of Worshipful Master of the Victoria Lodge. He was transferred a few years ago from Hongkong to Shanghai and at both ports his death will be sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends.

Mr. A. G. Ward gave another organ recital in St. John's Cathedral on 6th February, being assisted by Mr. G. P. Lammert as vocalist. There was a large congregation. The following was the programme:

Sonata (No. 1) Mendelssohn.
Allegro, moderato e Serioso—Adagio—Andante.
Recitativo—Allegro assai vivace.
Allegretto in B minor Guilmant.
Recitativo... "Draw near, all ye people" ("Elijah") Mendelssohn.
Air "Lord God of Abraham" ("Elijah") Mendelssohn.
Mr. G. P. LAMMERT.
Andante Silas.
Adagio (from Sonata Rethétique—arr. by Hiller).
Serenade (Arr. by Lloyd).
Song "Calvary" Rodney.
Mr. G. P. LAMMERT.
Postlude in D H. Smart.

A very interesting address was given at the City Hall on 6th February by Mr. W. H. Wilkinson on "Playing Cards," under the auspices of the Odd Volumes Society. Mr. Wilkinson joined issue with Mr. Cavendish upon the contention of the latter that playing cards were invented independently in Europe and not borrowed from the Chinese. Mr. Wilkinson contending that the European cards had been evolved from Chinese cards taken home by Marco Polo and that this rendered clear what had puzzled previous writers on the subject, namely, the origin of the symbols used to denote the different suits, these having been suggested by the Chinese characters. At the close of the address a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Wilkinson, on the motion of the Hon. H. E. Pollock.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 8th February.—Business has been rather meagre during the past week and prices have given way a little. Quotations for Formosa are \$51.50 to \$52.00. Sales, 300 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 8th Feb.—There have been large arrivals during the interval and the market is easier, except for candy, which continues firm. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.70 to 7.75	pel.
do. " 2, White...	7.18 to 7.22	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.9 to 5.10	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.8 to 4.87	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.60 to 7.65	"
do. " 2, White...	7.00 to 7.05	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.75 to 4.80	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.60 to 4.65	"
Footchow Sugar Candy...	11.50 to 11.55	"
S. of ...	10.00 to 10.02	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per German str. *Preussen*, sailed on the 1st February. For Singapore:—3,800 bags flour. For Genoa:—250 bales waste silk, 110 bales raw silk, 100 bales galangal, 81 bales canes, 52 rolls matting, 30 cases staranised, 20 cases essential oil, and 1 case curios. For New York:—119 cases essential oil and 3 cases silk piece goods. For Antwerp:—200 bales bamboo scraps, 26 packages rattanore, 25 rolls matting, 10 cases curios, 4 cases cigars, and 3 cases Chinaware. For Amsterdam:—14 cases Chinaware and 3 cases palmbranches. For Rotterdam:—15 cases China ware. For 248 rolls matting, 31 cases sundries, 23 cases naval stores, and 4 cases paper. For Hamburg:—47 bales feathers, 200 boxes cassia buds, 35 cases preserves, 30 cases palm leaf fans, 80 cases bristles, 20 cases fans, 10 cases preserves, 5 rolls matting, 1 box silk, 1 case black-woodware, and 1 case curios. For Antwerp and/or Havre, Hamburg and/or London:—2 cases human hair. For Hamburg and/or London:—250 boxes broken cassia.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 8th February.—Stocks have accumulated and prices are rather easier. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary...	\$2.72 to 2.77
" Round, good quality...	2.82 to 2.85
" Long ...	3.03 to 3.05
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 1 ...	3.02 to 3.05
" Garden, No. 1 ...	3.14 to 3.17
" White ...	3.78 to 3.85
" Fine Cargo ...	4.00 to 4.05

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 9th February.—Bengal.—The market has continued steady during the past week and a fair amount of business has been put through. New Panna is quoted at \$8.25. New Benares has slightly improved in price and is now quoted at \$8.21.

Malwa.—A fair amount of business has been done in this drug since our last report. There has been a decline in price for New opium, but the market closes steady for all descriptions at the following figures:—

New ...	\$7.10 with all from \$5 to 1 catty.
Old (2 yrs.)	\$7.80 " " 0 to 1 "
" (3/4 ")	\$7.40 " " 0 to 1 "
" (5/6 ")	\$7.60 " " 0 to 1 "
" (7/8 ")	\$7.90 " " 0 to 1 "

Persian.—The market has been rather quiet, but there is a good demand for the better quality of opium. Closing quotations are:—Oily \$550 to \$650 and Paper-tied \$650 to \$740.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

Patna ...	2,185 chests.
Benares ...	299 "
Malwa ...	505 "
Persian ...	1,030 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
Feb. 4	\$12 1/2	—	\$20	—	700	—
Feb. 5	\$12 1/2	—	\$20	—	700	—
Feb. 6	\$12 1/2	—	\$20	—	700	—
Feb. 7	\$12 1/2	—	\$20	—	700	—
Feb. 8	\$12 1/2	—	\$20	—	700	—
Feb. 9	\$12 1/2	—	\$21 1/2	—	700	—

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 8th February.—The approaching Chinese New Year holidays necessitates a curtailment of the usual weekly period and the publication of a review of only four days, during which the market has been fairly active and a fair business transacted at rates ruling from steady to strong.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—With a continued small but steady demand, and a further rise of the London rate to £61, the market has ruled very strong and sales have been effected at 285 per cent. prem. to 295 per cent. prem. for cash and at 290 per cent. prem. to 300 per cent. prem. for March, market closing steady at 295. Nationals have been negotiated in fair lots at \$20 1/2 and \$20 1/4.

MARINE INSURANCES.—With the exception of small sales of China Traders at \$65 there is no business or change to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkongs and Chinas remain on offer at quotations without business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at \$26 1/2 and \$26.70 for cash and at \$27 1/2 for March and April; market closes steady at \$26.75. Indo-Chinas have further improved with a fair business to \$67 1/2 after sales at \$65, \$66, and \$67 for cash and at \$68, \$68 1/2, and \$69 for April; the market closes with sellers at \$67 1/2. China Manilas remain unchanged and with small sales at \$95. Douglasses have ruled quiet but steady at \$58 with only small sales. China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have somewhat improved their position with sales at \$173, \$174, and \$175 cash and at \$178 for March. Luzons continue dull and out of the market.

MINING.—Paujoms remain neglected and weak with only very small sales at quotation. Charbonnages continue on offer at \$115 without business. Queen Mines have ruled quieter, but with further sales at \$1.05. Olivers continue dull with sellers of A's at \$7, but with a small demand for B's at \$5. Great Easterns have been negotiated in fair lots at \$9 1/2. Raubs have further improved their position to \$62 cash, after sales at \$60 and \$61, market closing with small sales at \$63; a demand for June shares at a higher than an equivalent rate remains unsatisfied at time of closing.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue to rule very firm and holders are loth to part; a small cash demand has existed during the period under review, but no shares have been forthcoming and the rate has gradually crept up to 316 per cent. prem. for cash, whilst a demand forward at considerably better than equivalent rates remains unsatisfied. Kowloon Wharves have ruled steady at \$87 1/2, but without much business. Wanchais unchanged.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands remain steady with small sales at \$78. Hotels have changed hands at \$74, Humphreys at \$94, and West Points at \$18, Humphreys closing in demand \$94.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs are enquired for in a small way at \$83. The quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have changed hands at \$12 1/2, \$12.25, and \$12.15, closing steady at \$12.25. Green Islands continue to find small buyers at quotations. Watsons have been negotiated at \$13 1/2, Electric at

\$11, Fenwicks at \$31, and China Providents at \$9 1/2.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	295 pr. c. pre
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary	\$4	\$1, sales
Do. deferred	\$1	h. ss.
Bank of China	—	—
B. Shares	\$8	\$20 1/2, sellers
Foun. Shares	\$1	\$20 1/2, sellers
Self's Asbestos L. A...	\$1	no. inal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	10, sales
China Prov. L. & M...	\$10	\$9.50, sales
China Sugar	\$100	\$174, buyers
Cotton Mills—	—	—
Ewo...	\$100	\$11, 70
International	\$100	\$11, 82
Laou Kung Mow	\$100	\$11, 88
Soychee	\$100	\$11, 400
Yahloong	\$100	\$11, 55
Hongkong	\$100	\$11, 55
Dairy Farm	\$100	\$11, 55
Fenwick & Co., Geo...	\$100	\$11, 55
Green Island Cement	\$100	\$11, 55
Do. New Issue	\$100	\$11, 55
H. & C. Bakery	\$100	\$11, 55
Hongkong & C. Co.	\$100	\$11, 55
Hongkong Electric	\$100	\$11, 55
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$11, 55
Hongkong Hotel	\$100	\$11, 55
Hongkong Ice	\$100	\$11, 55
H. & K. Wharf & G...	\$100	\$11, 55
Hongkong Rope	\$100	\$11, 55
H. & W. Dock	\$100	\$11, 55
Insurance—	—	—
Canton	\$100	\$11, 55
China Fire	\$100	\$11, 55
China Traders	\$100	\$11, 55
Hongkong Fire	\$100	\$11, 55
North-China	\$100	\$11, 55
Straits	\$100	\$11, 55
Union	\$100	\$11, 55
Yangtze	\$100	\$11, 55
and and Building—	—	—
Hongkong Land Inv	\$100	\$11, 55
Humphreys Estate	\$100	\$11, 55
Kowloon Land & B.	\$100	\$11, 55
West Point Building	\$100	\$11, 55
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$11, 55
Mining—	—	—
Charbonnages	\$100	\$11, 55
Ut. Estn. & C'donian	\$100	\$11, 55
Jebeu	\$100	\$11, 55
Queens Mines Ld.	\$100	\$11, 55
Over's Mines, A...	\$100	\$11, 55
Do. B...	\$100	\$11, 55
Unjoni	\$100	\$11, 55
Do. Preference	\$100	\$11, 55
Raubs	\$100	\$11, 55
New Amoy Dock	\$100	\$11, 55
Steamship Coys—	—	—
China and Manila	\$100	\$11, 55
China Mutual Ord.	\$100	\$11, 55
Do. Preference	\$100	\$11, 55
Do. Do.	\$100	\$11, 55
Douglas Steamship	\$100	\$11, 55
Do. Canton and M.	\$100	\$11, 55
Indo-China S. N.	\$100	\$11, 55
Star Ferry	\$100	\$11, 55
Febru Planting Co.	\$100	\$11, 55
Do.	\$100	\$11, 55
United Asbesto	\$100	\$11, 55
Do.	\$100	\$11, 55
Wanchai Warehouse	\$100	\$11, 55
Do.	\$100	\$11, 55

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 9th February.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/00

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.47
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.51

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.00 1/2
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	47 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	48 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	145 1/2
Bank, on demand	146

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	145 1/2
Bank, on demand	146

ON SHANGHAI.—
Bank, at sight 724
Private, 30 days sight 734
ON YOKOHAMA.—
On demand 54 % pm.
ON MANILA.—
On demand 14 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—
On demand 1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Ruying Rate 10.26
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 53.50

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

For LONDON.—*Patroclus* (str.), *Socotra* (str.),
Balaarat (str.), *Tosa Maru* (str.), *Malacca* (str.),
For BREMEN.—*Sachsen* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Tosa Maru* (str.), *Laos* (str.),
For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Sarina* (str.),
Suevia (str.), *Wittenberg* (str.), *Silesia* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Doric* (str.), *China* (str.),
Hongkong Maru (str.), *Queen Margaret*.
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).
For VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA.—*Victoria* (str.).
For PORTLAND, O.—*Monmouthshire* (str.).
For SAN DIEGO.—*Curmarthenshire* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*Sikh* (str.), *Indrani* (str.).
For THURSDAY ISLAND.—*Kusuga Maru* (str.).
For SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, AND BOMBAY.—
Kagoshima Maru (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—

ARRIVALS.

3, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
4, Coromandel, British str., from Bombay.
4, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
4, Kat-uyama Maru, Jap. str., from Saigon.
4, Amigo, German str., from Hongay.
4, Centurion, British flagship, from Manila.
4, Hong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
4, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
4, Plover, British gunboat, from Mira Bay.
4, Benmohr, British str., from London.
4, Benledi, British str., from Moji.
4, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
4, Victoria, Amr. str., from Tacoma.
4, Pegasus, British bark, from New York.
4, Charterhouse, British str., from S'pore.
5, China, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
5, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
5, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
5, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
5, Tantalus, British str., from Shanghai.
5, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
5, Szechuen, British str., from Wuhu.
5, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
5, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
5, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
6, Ebani, British str., from Hongay.
6, Esang, British str., from Shanghai.
6, Glengarry, British str., from London.
6, Hailoong, British str., from Coast Ports.
6, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., from Y'hama.
6, Silesia, German str., from Hamburg.
6, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
7, Malacca, British str., from Yokohama.
7, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
7, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
7, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
7, Feiching, Chinese str., from Canton.
8, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
8, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.
8, Knivsberg, German str., from Manila.
8, Pronto, German str., from Tournou.
8, Mongkut, British str., from Saigon.
8, Anping, Chinese str., from Shrughai.
8, Hanol, French str., from Haiphong.
8, Wosang, British str., from Wuhu.
8, Sachsen, German str., from Bremerhaven.
9, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., from Saigon.
9, Chinkiang, British str., from Wuhu.
9, Nanvong, German str., from Taiwanfoo.
9, Esang, British str., from Canton.
9, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
9, Wingsang, British str., from Moji.
9, Kaifong, British str., from Wuhu.
9, Taiwan, British str., from Shanghai.
9, Hoihao, French str., from Hoihow.
9, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.

February—

DEPARTURES.

4, Bengal, British str., for Europe.
4, Else, German str., for Saigon.
4, Antenor, British str., for Amoy.
4, Chingta, British str., for Kobe.
4, Foochow, British str., for Amoy.

4, Tientsin Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
4, Pakshan, British str., for Amoy.
4, Feiching, British str., for Canton.
4, Taichow, British str., for Amoy.
4, Coromandel, British str., for Shanghai.
4, Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
5, Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
5, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
5, Siegfried, German str., for Manila.
5, Dean, British str., for Bangkok.
6, Shini Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
6, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
6, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
6, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
6, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
6, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
6, Pathan, British str., for New York.
6, Ebani, British str., for Shanghai.
6, Firebrand, British g-bt., for Canton.
5, Plover, British gunboat, for Manila.
7, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
7, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
7, Taisang, British str., for Saigon.
7, Triton, German str., for Saigon.
7, Tantalus, British str., for London.
7, Swatow, German str., for Iloilo.
7, Hailoong, British str., for Amoy.
7, Loyal, German str., for Moji.
7, Lothair, Italian bark, for Callao.
7, Esang, British str., for Canton.
7, Szechuen, British str., for Canton.
7, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
8, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
8, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., for S. F'iscoo.
8, Malacca, British str., for London.
8, Guthrie, British str., for Sydney.
8, Abner Coburn, Amr. sh., for Manila.
8, Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Saigon.
8, Dean, British str., for Singapore.
8, Amigo, German str., for Saigon.
8, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
8, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
8, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
8, Benledi, British str., for Koh-si-chang.
8, Broad Mayne, British str., for Palak Papar.
8, Benmohr, British str., for Nagasaki.
8, Feiching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
8, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
8, Charterhouse, Brit. str., for Swatow.
8, Taifu, German str., for Foochow.
8, Loksang, British str., for Saigon.
8, Ousang, British str., for Singapore.
9, Machew, British str., for Bangkok.
9, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
9, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
9, Clam, British str., for Bangkok.
9, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
9, Knivsberg, German str., for Manila.
9, Mongkut, British str., for Saigon.
9, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
9, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Hongay.
9, Chittagong, British str., for Saigon.
9, Wosang, British str., for Canton.
9, Kaifong, British str., for Canton.
9, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
9, Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Chingtu*, for Hongkong, from Australian ports, Mr. and Mrs. Wenz, Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre, Mr. and Mrs. Saxton, Messrs. Bensusan and Balseu; from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Rafael Ryers, Messrs. Ag. Llorente, C. Greg Hermida, E. P. Codwell, Pedro Luengos, Vicente Zamora, Ricardo Lorenzo, Sebastian Sanchez, Sebastiano Bus, A. H. Skelton, Dr. and Mrs. Sanger, Messrs. G. O. Holden, Ambrosio Ponce, Edward Bellows, W. J. Corwin, Kennedy T. Carey, and Sylvia T'enza.

Per *Machew*, from Anghin, &c., Miss Donoghue.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, for Singapore, Mrs. Foster, Capt. Burney, Lieut. P. G. Davies, Mrs. A. G. Wise, Miss Purdon, Mr. and Mrs. V. Cunhas and 5 children, Messrs. C. C. Malseh, Schlaikier, G. Creeamo, and G. L. Campbell.

Per *Coromandel*, for Yokohama, from London, Messrs. G. Martha and W. C. Stuart; from Marseilles, Mrs. Elam, Capt. Fraser and servant, Mr. C. Newlands; for Shanghai, from London, Miss Stephens, Mr. F. Rhodes; from Marseilles, Mr. C. R. Burkill, Lieut. E. B. Barmadiston, Mrs. MacNaught and Miss Sharp; for Hongkong, from London, Mr. A. E. Johnson, Hon. J. S. Lockhart, Mr. W. H. Cumpston, Lt. H. R. Lloyd, Messrs.

C. T. Bishop and A. G. Rees, from Marseilles, Messrs. N. B. Walker, G. H. Potts, and J. Whitehead; from Bombay, Mrs. J. E. Ellis; from Colombo, Chowfolum; from Penang, Miss A. Bunn; from Singapore, Messrs. H. Bubb, G. B. Swann, C. C. Cheng, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, and Mr. C. J. Rehnle; from Colombo, Dr. Newman Smith and Mr. S. Marjoribanks.

Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Mr. Coghill, Capt. Hunter, Capt. Inman, and Mr. Watt.

Per *Charterhouse*, from Tacoma, Rev. F. P. Gilman, Mrs. Gilman and three children, Dr. H. M. McCandlin, Miss Etta Montgomery, and Mr. Goodwin.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Lieut. W. G. Nannum, U.S.N., Ensign E. McCauley, Jr., U.S.N., apt. J. E. Bozer, U.S.N., Mrs. A. B. Snow and 2 children, Mrs. H. Samson, Messrs. V. D. Planta, T. J. Barrowes, C. A. Zitterholm, and Dansiger, Mrs. Irving Hale, Mr. G. W. Green and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Pereira, Miss M. Bond, Dr. H. Joy, Mr. and Mrs. Kusababe, Mr. Von Lenzker, Dr. Keatner, Mrs. Kineyer, Messrs. A. P. Samy, L. W. Baskett, E. A. Probst, T. H. Whitehead, S. W. Straham, A. M. Pepper, E. A. Tomlinson, G. H. Bailey, W. R. Patterson, and A. A. Eleghem.

Per *Keong Wai*, from Bangkok, Mrs. Lillie and child, and Mr. C. Sattles.

Per *Malacca*, from Yokohama, Mrs. and Miss Dinsdale, Miss Edis, and Mr. Macdonald.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Miss A. Duncan, Messrs. Pottorally, E. J. Griat, S. Okada, Lieut. Tamaoka, Admiral Kurooka and Messrs. F. Blum and Soares.

Per *Suisang*, from Calcutta, &c., Mrs. Gardner Hill, Mrs. Crockett, Mrs. Pithie, Mr. Baskerville Mason and 159 Chinese.

Per *Anping*, from Shanghai, Mr. Wheeley, Capt. Grayson, Mrs. Prentice and child, Mrs. MacCracken and child, Mrs. and Miss Aquino, and Mrs. Encarnacao and child.

DEPARTED.

Per *Bengal*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Mr. E. V. Bensusan, and Major Russell; for Colombo, Mr. Bramwell; for Malta, Mr. P. Bonnice; for Bombay, Mr. A. Hassumbhoy; for Imailia, Mr. J. R. Stewart; for Marseilles, Mr. Schudt; for London, Messrs. F. C. Moore and J. C. Mowbray, Miss E. M. Himes, Messrs. J. W. Himes and W. C. Parsons, Rev. A. Connell, Messrs. H. M. Humphrey, A. D. Walker, H. E. Morris, Etherington, T. Napier, and Birkett. From Shanghai for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Matsuo; for Marseilles, Comdr. Grafton, R.N., Mrs. and Miss Counts; for London, Mrs. Henderson, Rev. J. W. and Mrs. Peel, Miss Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Tremberth and children, and Miss Wilkins.

Per *Coromandel*, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Messrs. Koo Chel-foo, Wm. Harris Purcell, and Turner, Mrs. O. Kamoto, Dr. J. and Mrs. Sanger, Messrs. E. P. Cadwell and M. Jenffrain; from Port Said, Mr. B. C. Cass; from London, Miss Stephens, Mr. F. Rhodes, and Lieut. R. H. Lloyd, R.M.L.I.; for Marseilles, Mr. C. R. Burkill, Lieut. Barmadiston, Mrs. Macnaught, and Miss Sharpe.

Per *Rosetta*, from Hongkong for Nagasaki, Mr. Narmi; for Kobe, Mrs. Okhai Hayasaki; for Yokohama, Mr. J. A. M. Gutterres, Pay Inspector Ed. Bellows, U.S.N., and Mr. W. J. Corwin. For Yokohama from London, Messrs. J. Martin and W. C. Stuart; from Marseilles, Mrs. Elam, Capt. Fraser, and Mr. C. Newlands.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. E. Wildman, Mrs. Irving Hale, Mrs. Alliston and child, Mr. Humphreys, Capt. John E. Boyer, Messrs. Claudio Carbonell, Smithers, Martinazzi, W. Gaspard de Coligny, J. Whitehead, H. B. Walker, Ramirez, and A. Arnold, Miss Emilio Rauch, and Miss Natalia Sophia.

Per *Hongkong Maru*, for Shanghai, Messrs. B. F. Hutchison and Ichitaro, Lieut. L. J. Magill, Messrs. S. W. Pratt, Y. Honda, S. I. Konaga, and T. Nakajima; for Kobe, Messrs. A. J. de Souza, K. Otani, T. Takeda, and U. Asakura; for Yokohama, Mr. J. Martin; for San Francisco, Mr. B. E. Strauss, Miss Z. A. Brunn, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wenz, Mr. L. E. Sargent, Rev. Mrs. and Misses Gilman, Master Chas. Gilman, Miss Etta Montgomery, and Mr. K. J. Carey; for New York, Mr. G. H. Holden; for London, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Morgan.

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